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USTINOV REPLIES TO TASS ON MISSILES

LD201345 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Follow answers of the USSR minister of defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov to questions of a TASS correspondent:

Question: As is known, the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe has resulted in the aggravation of the international situation. What, in your opinion, are the manifestations of it?

Answer: The developments that followed the deployment of missiles are exactly those against which the Soviet leadership has repeatedly warned the public. After the beginning of the deployment of American medium-range missiles in West Germany, Britain and Italy, the situation in Europe and in the world in general has dramatically aggravated. It became impossible to continue the talks on the limitation and recuction of nuclear armaments. The Reagan administration is drawing the world into another nuclear arms race.

Having taken the path of deploying its missiles in Europe, the U.S. has upset the military balance and has created additional nuclear threat to the Soviet Union and its allies. We could not ignore it and responded to this threat in a proper way. Thanks to the measures we are taking, the military balance is being restored, although, of course, on a higher level. The number of warheads trained on each other's objects has grown, the time has been reduced for taking a decision to respond to a nuclear strike or to a nuclear situation that can involuntarily form, the confidence between states has been undermined.

In other words, as a result of the appearance in Europe of American nuclear missiles intended for delivering the first strike the probability of a nuclear conflict has increased. The overseas lovers of military ventures hope that the small flight time of "Pershing-2" missiles to targets on the territory of the USSR and other socialist countries ensures certain advantages to the U.S. This is a dangerous miscalculation. A nuclear attack on the USSR and its allies will invariably lead to the immediate and inevitable retaliatory strike both at the territories where the missiles are deployed and at the territories from which orders are issued concerning their utilisation. There should be no doubt about it.

Has the security of West Germany, Britain and Italy been consolidated as a result of the deployment of American missiles in those countries? Quite the other way about -- their security has been reduced. The threat to the U.S. itself has also been increased. All this is well known to Washington leaders. Howerver, they prefer to keep silent about the reply measures taken by the Soviet Union concerning the U.S. territory. The U.S. ruling circles do not want to tell the truth about them to their own people: It would make too obvious the consequences for the U.S. itself of the deployment of their medium-range missiles in Europe and of the policy of confrontation with the Soviet Union pursued by the Reagan administration.

It is high time for those who shape the U.S. policy to come to think about the futility of the attempts to achieve a military superiority over the Soviet Union. The existing military balance and the agreements reached earlier on the limitation of nuclear armaments objectively promote the maintaining of peace.

The Soviet Union is not striving to attain military superiority, but neither does it recognize that someone else has such a right. The USSR is a principled opponent of the line toward military superiority.

Soviet leaders have more than once said so. As Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, said at the February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee: "We have no need for military superiority, we have no intention of dictating our will to others, but we will not allow the established military balance to be upset." The unwillingness to take this reality into account and the U.S. striving for world domination are only leading to a greater and greater growth of the threat of nuclear war.

Question: In practice, what measures are being taken in reply to the siting of the U.S. missiles in FRG, Britain and Italy?

Answer: The contents of the countermeasures can be summarized as follows. The unilateral moratorium announced by the Soviet Union in March 1982 on the deployment of medium-range SS-20 missiles in the European part of the country has been canceled, as was warned in advance. In the event of any further increase in the U.S. nuclear missile potential in Europe we will correspondingly increase the quantity of SS-20 missiles in the European part of the USSR.

On agreement with the Governments of the GDR and the CSSR the deployment of Soviet enhanced-range operational-tactical missiles on the territory of those countries, allied to us, commenced from December 1983 in the interest of ensuring the defenses of the countries of the socialist community. At the present time such missiles have been made operational, creating an adequate counterbalance to the threat, above all, with respect to those regions where American missiles are stationed.

Countermeasures have been taken with respect to U.S. territory as well. The R. Reagan administration, in a bid to achieve superiority, counts on the possibility of reaching, with the help of "Pershing-2" missiles, targets and peaceful cities in the Warsaw Treaty countries in 8-10 minutes after the launching of the missiles. But this is an illusory advantage. We have increased the number of our submarines with nuclear missiles aboard off the coast of the U.S.A. In terms of their characteristics -- yield, accuracy, the ability to reach targets on the territory of the United States, and the flight time to target -- Soviet sea-based missiles create a counterbalance to the threat equal to that which is posed to us and our allies by the American missiles in Europe.

I would like to emphasise specially that our response measures are strictly confined to the limits that are dictated by the actions of the U.S.A. and NATO. We will continue to do so in future as well. In response to the further buildup of U.S. "Pershing-2" missiles on the territory of the FRG, conducted at the present time, we, on agreement with the leadership of the GDR, deployed in addition to what had already been stationed earlier, Soviet enhanced-range operational-tactical missiles on its territory. If the American contenders to world-wide domination keep building up medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and other nuclear forces, including the strategic forces, we will have no other alternative but to reply to them in kind.

The Soviet Union considers such a situation to be abnormal and dangerous. The situation should and can be changed for the better. The cessation of the deployment of U.S. missiles and the removal from Europe of the missiles, that have already been deployed, would eliminate the need for our response measures. They could also be canceled. We believe that that would make it possible to lessen the level of tension in Europe and the world, to strengthen international security.

Question: As is known, the U.S. Administration declares that it intends to carry on with the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe. At the same time Washington is talking much of the readiness for continuing talks on nuclear arms limitation without any preconditions. What can be said on that issue?

Answer: U.S. calls for a "serious and intensive dialogue" and also for the "readiness to walk one's half of the way in the search for mutually acceptable agreements" are mere words with the help of which the public opinion is being misled. In actual fact U.S. leaders are trying to dictate to the Soviet Union their own conditions for the resumption of the talks, the conditions that are clearly unacceptable to us. They have deployed missiles in Europe, generated an additional threat to the USSR and its allies. Now they are saying: "Let us try to come to terms." In doing so, they again offer us the discussion of the trite American proposals which, as the past experience shows, are deliberately not designed for the attainment of any agreement. Washington shows a similar approach to the solution of the problem of strategic weapons. At a recent press conference President Reagan said that the U.S.A. badly needed that the production of the new ICBM's "MX" be speeded up because, says he, if the U.S.A. did not have that missile the Soviet Union would not return to the negotiating table. Is that a road toward agreement? The talks are impossible on such a basis.

It has long become clear to us that the U.S. Administration was conducting a double game on the problem of nuclear arms limitations. For many years now, on the one hand, treaties and agreements are being signed, and on the other, their ratification is being thwarted. As a result, having been signed, they do exist and should be observed, one would think, but actually the United States seems, as it were, to be free from the obligations it has taken upon itself. That is what they do with the treaties on the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests (1974), on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (1976), the strategic arms limitation treaty, SALT-2 (1979). In SALT-2 the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. recognized an approximate equality existing between them. Having thwarted the ratification of that treaty, the U.S. Administration has launched an all-out propaganda campaign about "Soviet military superiority" and the "Soviet military threat". Why is this being done? In order to intensify the arms race without hindrance, to develop ever new armaments, including nuclear armaments. The ratification of the above-mentioned treaties would have hindered the U.S. Administration from doing that.

Lately, certain leaders of the American Administration have been making such statements as well: They say all the nuclear arms limitation treaties, signed with the Soviet Union earlier, should be abrogated. It should be reminded to those unrestrained persons, who are unwilling to reckon with the real correlation of forces and are trying to embark on the road of blackmail and threats, that the United States, if one proceeds from the security interests of the peoples of both countries, needs the agreements on nuclear arms limitation not less than the Soviet Union. Their renunciation will in no way contribute to the security of the U.S.A. itself.

Washington leaders should not hypnotize themselves and deceive the world public opinion that with the help of new missiles or new plans for the establishment of a "comprehensive anti-missile defense of the U.S.A." it is possible to make the Soviet Union, through threats and pressure, agree to unilateral concessions. These are futile hopes. We will not negotiate under threats and pressure. The USSR is for honest, equal and constructive negotiations.

The basis for such negotiations is clear. If the U.S.A. wants to embark on such a road it should first of all remove the threat to the security of Europe and the whole world, the threat which emerged with the appearance of new American missiles on European soil, to give up ungrounded attempts at winning military advantages, be it through whipping up the arms race, or in the hope for the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union as a result of negotiations.

Konstantin Chernenko said during a meeting with H.-J. Vogel, chairman of the SDPG [Social Democratic Party of Germany] grouping in the Bundestag: "We emphasise the need of returning to the previous situation not out of considerations of prestige. We quite simply do not want the war threat to grow in Europe and the whole world. In other words, we proceed from the interests of consolidating peace". Now it is up to the United States to have its say. The talks on the limiation of nuclear armaments could be resumed at any time as soon as the U.S. removes the obstacles which it has itself put up by the deployment of its medium-range missiles in Europe. The USSR is ready to negotiate radical measures to limit and reduce armaments on the only possible and just basis -- on the basis of equality and equal security.

Question: Soviet people are indignant at the aggressive militarist policy of the U.S. Administration. Simultaneously quite often the question is being asked: What else should be done to ensure reliably the security of the Soviet Union and our allies in the face of the imperialist threat?

Answer: True, such a question is being asked frequently. It is also true that Washington's aggressive, militarist policy constitutes a serious threat to the Soviet Union, our friends, all peace-loving states and peoples. Naturally, Soviet people are indignant at the attempts of the leaders of American imperialism to dictate their terms to the Soviet Union, to talk to us -- and will all peace-loving states of this planet, for that matter -- from the positions of strength as if they had the right to decide the destinies of peoples, to rule over the world. They behave themselves as if there were no instructive lessons of history.

The results of the Second World War are a stern warning to the American challengers to world domination. The victory of the Soviet people over the strike forces of imperialism -- German Nazism and Japanese militarism, which is of world-wide historic significance, is convincing evidence that any attempts at resolving the historical dispute with socialism by means of military force are doomed to inevitable utter failure.

Those who are organizing today a new crusade against socialism will be well advised to recall how such attempts ended in the past.

Even more so, nowadays under the conditions of an irreversible change in the balance of forces in the international arena in favor of socialism, imperialism has no chance to achieve its class aims through military means.

An insurmountable obstacle to it in this way is the powerful economic potential and the invincible defence might of the USSR, the monolithic cohesion of the Soviet society, the indestructible unity of the Communist Party and the people.

The community of the socialist states, the fraternal combat alliance of the armies of the Warsaw Treaty member countries is the reliable bulwark of peace and security of peoples. No military adventure of imperialism will take us by surprise. "Any aggressor will immediately get his desserts", said Konstantin Chernenko, addressing a meeting with the workers of the "Serp i Molot" Metallurgical Works in Moscow.

The Communist Party calls upon the Soviet people to work even more perseveringly and purposefully to strengthen our country's economy. The Soviet people know well: To curb the aggressive forces of the United States, to ensure reliably the security of the homeland and of our friends, all of us should conscientiously work, displaying a responsible attitude in our work place and combat post, do our patriotic duty with honor. The common labour effort of the entire Soviet people is and will be the foundation of the USSR's economic and defence might.

The Soviet Union is a peaceful country. Its Armed Forces have never threatened anybody, have never taken up the sword against other states and peoples. They stand guard of the peaceful work of the Soviet people, the interests of the peoples of the socialist countries. The Soviet Armed Forces have been, are, and will be the reliable defender of peace and security. The Central Committee of the CPSU and the Soviet Government do their utmost that the Army and the Navy be fitted out with the most advanced weapons and military equipment, that the defence capacity of the USSR be maintained at the proper level.

The Communist Party has set to us the task of keeping the Army and the Navy in permanent readiness for resolutely repelling any aggressor. The Soviet Armed forces are ready to carry out that task.

U.S. SCIENTISTS SEND LETTER TO CHERNENKO

LD190932 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Washington May 19 TASS -- Prominent U.S. scientists, Richard Garvin and Carl Sagan, have sent a letter to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, expressing their deep concern over the dangers connected with the militarisation of outer space.

The authors of the letter declare in support of the Soviet draft "treaty on the prohibition of the use of force in outer space and from space with respect to earth" which was submitted to the past session of the U.N. General Assembly for consideration.

They point out that the Soviet Union gave a positive reply to the appeal by a large group of American scientists and public figures in the spring of 1983 on the question of banning space weapons. At present, taking into account the increasing acuteness of the problem, they are again urging the leaders of the countries of the world to come to terms about an agreement on the prohibition of the deployment of any types of weapons in outer space as well as of the damaging of satellites of any state or of their destruction.

The authors of the letter set out some concrete considerations concerning restrictions on the use of manned spaceships for military purposes.

Chernenko Reply

PM211035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 84 First Edition p 1

["K.U. Chernenko's Reply to American Scientists' Appeal"]

[Text] Esteemed Sirs

The appeal which you are again making to world leaders to prevent lethal weapons from being unleashed in space and to avert the appearance of a new direction in the arms race is acutely topical. We understand profoundly the concern expressed by prominent American scientists in this regard.

Space has become a symbol of the gradiose achievements of science and technology. Its peaceful conquest is bearing not inconsiderable fruits. Some people, however, would like to turn space into a bridgehead of aggression and war. It is clear from U.S. announcements that it plans to deploy antimissile weapons in space, give scope to the operation of various sorts of antisatellite systems, and deploy super-new types of weapons designed for dealing strikes against targets on land, in the air, and at sea.

The Soviet Union is a firm opponent of competition in the race of any kind of armaments, including space weapons.

At the same time it should be understood that in the face of a threat from space the Soviet Union will be forced to take measures in order to guarantee its security reliably. Calculations that it is possible to lay the road to military superiority through space are built on illusions. However, they do not want to give up such calculations and this is fraught with extremely dangerous condequences. To prevent such a train of events, before it is too late, is the direct duty of responsible state figures, scientists, of all who are really concerned for the future of mankind.

The Soviet Union again confirms that it is ready to make maximum efforts to see that sinister plans for transferring the arms race into space do not become reality. It is our conviction that a policy aimed at safely protecting space from the deployment of weapons should be the compulsory norm of conduct of states, a universally recognized international obligation.

We are resolutely against the development of large-scale antimissile defense systems, which cannot be regarded otherwise than as calculated for the unpunished implementation of nuclear aggression. There is a Soviet-American treaty on antimissile defense, without time-limit, banning the creation of such systems. It must be strictly observed. The solemn renunciation of the very idea of the deployment in space of antimissile systems would meet the spirit and letter of this treaty and the task of ensuring a peaceful status of outer space in the interests of all mankind. Such a step would be interpreted everywhere in the world as a manifestation of genuine concern for the peaceful future of mankind.

The matter of banning antisatellite weapons is also urgent. Deployment of such weapons would result in sharp destabilization of the situation, to an increased threat of sudden attack, and would undermine the efforts for ensuring trust between nuclear states. You, as scientists understand better than anyone else how dangerous all this is.

Urgent steps are necessary before the threatening process of militarization of space becomes irreversible. Here, there must be no place for propaganda tricks or for attempts to gain for oneself temporary advantages of one kind or another. The problem of preventing the militarization of space is a universal human problem. It calls for radical decisions. Such decisions are perfectly attainable. We must fully realize our responsibility to the peoples, and display a will to reach agreement.

In an effort to block the path of weapons into space, we have proposed an agreement to ban the use of force in and from space in relation to earth. Such an agreement would presuppose, in particular, a complete renunciation of antisatellite weapons, including the destruction of existing systems. To make it easier to reach agreement, the USSR has unilaterally declared a moratorium on the launching into space of antisatellite weapons for as long as other countries do likewise.

The Soviet initiative has received broad support in the world. There is no, and cannot be, any justifications for a refusal to embark on the drawing up of relevant practical measures. It is necessary to start official talks without any conditions or reservations, aimed at safely closing all channels of the militarization of space. It is the duty of political and public figures of all countries to promote this just and deeply humane goal. The Soviet Union is full of determination to do everything in its power to see that an appropriate agreement is attained.

With regard to your specific idea, concerning a provision in the Soviet draft treaty on the limitation of the military use of both manned and unmanned spaceships, this could be examined during official talks.

I take this opportunity to wish you success in your noble activity in the prevention of a spread of the arms race into space.

With respect,

[Signed] K. Chernenko

GROMYKO LETTER TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR ON DISARMAMENT

LD191708 Moscow TASS in English 1703 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has addressed U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a letter on the problem of interconnection between disarmament and development. The letter says:

The Soviet Union's opinion is that the prevention of a nuclear war and the adoption of concrete measures on arms reduction and disarmament are an indispensable condition for a successful solution to such urgent tasks as ensuring the economic development of states, including those which recently gained political independence. It is precisely from this angle that the USSR views the interconnection between disarmament and development.

The Soviet Union fully shares the profound concern of an overwhelming majority of the countries of the world that the arms race being whipped up by the imperialist forces deflects more and more material and intellectual resources for non-productive purposes with every passing year while a considerable part of the world's population continue to suffer from undernourishment and diseases and remain deprived of elementary education and medical attention.

The intensification of the arms race is conducive to increased deformation and instablility of international economic relations and it worsens prospects for their restructuring on a just and democratic basis and for the establishment of a new international economic order free from exploitation and diktat.

The new spiralling-up of the arms race by the United States and its NATO allies and the attempts at spreading it over to outer space, still more increasing the danger of a nuclear war, threaten to deadlock the efforts aimed at solving such global human problems as the provision of the majority of the world's peoples with food, the development of new sources of energy, the conservation of the environment, and the eradication of diseases. The economic difficulties being experienced by many countries of the world are aggravated still more while possibilities for removing them recede. It is first of all the working people who feel the burden of and suffer from that.

The imperialist powers' counting on force and arbitrary inclusion of many developing countries into their spheres of "vital interests" compel those countries to spend on the purchase of armaments the funds which are extremely necessary to them for development purposes. New and new states are drawn into the vicious circle of the arms race.

This is why the question of taking effective measures to prevent a nuclear war, to put an end to the arms buildup, and prevent the arms race from spreading over to new countries, to expanses and spheres of human endeavor which are not yet covered by it is acute today as never before.

The USSR persistently presses for the taking of real measures to curb the arms race and achieve disarmament, the measures which would make it possible to release funds for development purposes, including those of the developing countries. With this end in view it has put forward quite a number of concrete proposals within the framework of the United Nations Organization and outside it.

As far back as in 1962 the USSR submitted "the draft declaration on switching over to peaceful needs the funds and resources which are released as a result of disarmament" to the 17th session of the U.N. General Assembly for consideration. The USSR's proposal envisaging the use of funds obtained as a result of the termination of the production of nuclear weapons and reduction of their stocks exclusively for peaceful purposes, including developmental ones, was also tabled at the United Nations.

One of the most effective and at the same time simple ways to curb the arms race and get additional funds for development purposes as a result of that is to reduce military budgets. The appropriate Soviet initiatives on this score have won wide approval at the United Nations. More than ten years have passed since the U.N. General Assembly endorsed the USSR's proposal on the reduction of the military budgets of states -- permanent members of the U.N. Security Council by ten per cent and on the use of part of means thus saved for rendering aid to the developing countries.

Since then the Soivet Union has been persistently pressing for the implementation of this decision of the General Assebmly which was supported by most U.N. members. Where is the cause of the fact that this useful decision of the United Nations still remains unfulfilled? The cause lies in the unwillingness of the USA and its NATO allies to go to a reduction of their military appropriations the sky-rocketing of which has been programmed right up to the beginning of next millenium.

In these condition the proposals, which are being put forward by some people as to setting about evaluating the "military efforts and potentials" of states, as well as to giving greater scope to the gathering of data on the military uses of manpower and material resources under the guise of ensuring the "openness" of military spending, are aimed at concealing the true cause of the arms race, namely: the lack of political will on the part of certain states to go to real measures of disarmament and consequently to the release of funds for development purposes.

The proposals aimed at substituting deliberately complicated book-keeping surveys of their comparability, i.e. none other than endless disputes between economists, statisticians and other experts over figures, for a reduction of military budgets are in the same vein. Such an approach is alien to the Soviet Union, since that would be yet another version of holding talks for the sake of talks, or, to be more exact, for the sake of creating the semblance of efforts towards disarmament while the arms race goes on and gathers momentum.

The ideas of imposing a certain "tax" on military spending are lacking realism, too. Their meaning is not termination of the arms race but only the collection of a kind of "pay-offs" for its continuation. In general, a paradoxical situation could develop when endeavours to get more deductions depending on the amount of weapons in other states would engender some countries' interest in a further build-up of armaments, and not in their reduction.

It is also difficult to imagine how the holding of a conference on various aspects of the interconnection between disarmament and development, the conference which in actual fact would not be connected with disarmament measures in any way, could promote the release of funds for development purposes. However, it should not be ruled out that such kind of forum could be used by opponents of disarmament as a screen to cover up their unwillingness to go to really tangible arms-limitation steps.

Meanwhile the adoption of practical measures to reduce military spending of states and to release additional funds for development purposes acquires particular topicality in the conditions of the growing international tension. The necessity of such measures is also prompted by the serious economic difficulties and crisis phenomena which many capitalist and developing countries now experience, which entails extremely negative consequences for the entire system of world economic relations.

It is obvious that only real disarmament steps can create possibilities for switching resources over to the solution of social and economic problems which are glaringly acute in the developing countries which were ruthlessly plundered in the past by the colonialists and which multinational monopolies would like to exploit endlessly in our days. This is also a means for alleviating the chronic ailments which afflict the economy of capitalist countries with its many millions of jobless starving and destitute people.

The Soviet Union regards with understanding the demand by many states and, first of all, by the developing ones for the adoption of measures to limit and reduce armaments in close connection with the solution of the economic development problems. Possibilities for that exist. The concrete proposals by the USSR and other socialist countries on reducing military budgets in percentage or in absolute forms and their readiness to solve on a mutually-acceptable basis the question of intital amounts of such cuts and, as the first step, to come to terms on a freeze on military spending provide a good basis for reaching agreement.

Striving to get moving the solution of this excpetionally important problem, the Warsaw Treaty member states have addressed a proposal to the NATO states on mutual non-increase in military expenditures and on their subsequent reduction. The joint document which the socialist countries handed over to the NATO members on March 5, 1984, contains proposals concerning the practical start of negotiations on this problem. However, there has been no reply from NATO so far.

The Soviet Union is convinced that if the USA and its allies which possess a great economic and military potential, likewise showed readiness to come to terms practically on a reduction of military budgets, an agreement putting an end to the endless spiral of the growth of military spending would have already become a fact of political life. And this means that considerable financial and material resources would have been directed already now for use for constructive purposes, for social and economic development.

The implementation of the wide range of proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries on the entire set of the arms-limitation and disarmament problem would likewise undoubtedly result in the release of considerable resources for development purposes. From this point of view the translation into life of the USSR's proposal on coming to terms about certain norms to which relationships between the powers possessing nuclear weapons would be subordinated would be of much importance. The building of confidence and a change for the better in the international situation, which would inevitably become the result of such measures, would enable the states to channel an increasing part of the resources which are now spent on armaments into development promotion purposes.

The sooner the running of military conveyors is slowed down and then stopped and the squandering of huge intellectual and material resources of people on the creation and stockpiling of new weapons of extermination is ended, the more successful and accelerated the economic and social progress of all states and all peoples will become.

U.S.-USSR ARMS TREATIES COMMISSION SESSION ENDS

LD181720 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Geneva May 18 TASS -- A regular session of the Soviet-American consultative commission created to assist the fulfillment of the aims and provisions of the ABM treaty and the interim treaty on certain measures in the field of limiting strategic offensive arms, concluded between the USSR and the United States on May 26, 1972, and also the agreement on lessening the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war, concluded by the two countries on September 30, 1971, ended here today.

ITALIAN DELEGATE ON SOVIET CDE PROPOSALS

LD192006 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Delegates to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe are devoting much attention to the Soviet proposals that have been put forward for examination by the participants in the present session. Our correspondent Valentin Gubernatorov reports from the Swedish capital:

[Gubernatorov] The conference participants have received the Soviet proposals with great interest. This is what Ambassador Antonio Ciarrapico, head of the Italian delegation, said in an interview for Soviet radio:

[Begin Ciarrapico recording -- in Italian fading into translation] During his recent visit to Moscow, Italy's Foreign Minister Andreotti discussed with Soviet leaders Chernenko and Gromyko a wide range of problems including questions of security and disarmament. Hope was expressed for an improvement in East-West relations, and the necessity of achieving definite results at the talks that are continuing on arms control and the resumption of the talks that have been broken off was noted. We received with interest the proposals of the Soviet delegation put forward officially for examination by the conference on 8 May. The Soviet document was presented just a few days ago. We will study its merits with care and express our opinion on it with due consideration of our observation.

The delegates have complex and busy work ahead of them. The successful completion of the conference will depend to a large extent on the degree to which the United States and the NATO countries adopt a serious attitude toward the Soviet proposals. [end recording]

POLAND TO HOST MAY PACT COMMAND, STAFF EXERCISE

LD181726 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] At the end of May to the beginning of June a planned allied command and staff exercise with field-deployed means of communication, codenamed "Summer-84" will take place in northwestern Poland. The exercise will be directed by the minister of national defense of the Polish People's Republic. The exercise aims to improve command cooperation between operational staffs.

DEMICHEV DELEGATION LEAVES BUDAPEST 18 MAY

LD190242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] A Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of culture left Budapest today. It participated in the work of the 12th meeting of ministers of culture of socialist countries.

CEMA REPRESENTATIVES END MEETING IN TASHKENT

GF201732 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1600 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The meeting of the representatives of CEMA institutes of planning organs on matters related to cooperation and upgrading the fruits of [word indistinst] ended in Tashkent today. The participants of the meeting discussed cooperation during the forthcoming years and established a program of work covering the period until the year 1990. The program is concerned with the harmonious development of the economic mechanisms of all CEMA countries.

The experts from allied republics have been called upon to participate in the effort made to realize the program during the new phase. This will broaden the scope of cooperation and [words indistinct].

The participants of the meeting visited a number of factories, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and scientific institutions in Uzbekistan.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD201819 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 20 May 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Boris Andrianov, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the editorial board of NOVOYE VREMYA; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer for KOMMUNIST]

Chernenko Answers Scientists

[Text] [Andrianov] Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's reply to the appeal by U.S. scientists who express profound concern over the dangers arising from the militarization of space is published in our press today. Comrade Chernenko stressed that our country is a resolute opponent of all arms races, including the arms race in space. At the same time it should be understood that if it had to face a threat from space, the Soviet Union could be compelled to take measures to reliably safeguard its security. The calculations that a road to military superiority can be built via space are founded on illusions, the Soviet leader noted. There is, however, a reluctance to abandon such calculations, and this is fraught with extremely dangerous consequences. Preventing such a course of events before it is too late is the direct duty and responsibility of statesmen, scientists, and all those who are truly concerned for the future of mankind. The Soviet Union, Comrade Chernenko pointed out, once again confirms that it is ready to make the maximum efforts to ensure that the sinister plans to carry the arms race into space do not become a reality.

The U.S. efforts to upset space's peaceful status is evidence of the sharply heightened aggressiveness of imperialism -- and first and foremost, of course, U.S. imperialism. Imperialism's reaction to its defeats in social battles and the loss of its former colonial possessions is a fevered wave of military preparations. That is also its reaction to the fact that more and more countries are moving away from the capitalist system, while the communist and workers' movement is achieving evident successes.

[Volskiy] Imperialism's reaction to the enormous achievements by the world socialist system is a militarist bacchanalia. It is obviously afraid of peaceful coexistence and peaceful competition with real socialism.

Tribute to CEMA, Warsaw Pact

[Andrianov] This real socialism is now playing an exceptionally important role on the international scene and is vividly demonstrating its advantages in all spheres of development of a new society. The world socialist system now comprises ten socialist states in Europe, Asia and Latin America, and they are all members of the CEMA. This year is the 35th anniversary of that organization.

Over the past 35 years the CEMA countries have traveled a path of rapid economic upsurge. Thus, for example, in 2 5-year periods alone -- from 1971 to 1980 -- the fraternal countries' national incomes increased by more than 2/3, while industrial output grew by 85 percent. Is it not remarkable that during that period approximately 1/2 of the entire world's increase in industrial production was accounted for by our socialist community? Another example: From 1951 to 1982 world per capital industrial output increased by an average of 240 percent, while in the CEMA countries it increased by more than 80 percent.

It is not surprising that our socialist community now possesses a powerful material and technical base -- that is a major economic complex. The majority of the CEMA member-countries are highly industrialized or industrialized agrarian states with a modern, multisector economy. The industrial potential of the 10 CEMA countries is more than double that of the European 10, the so-called Common Market. Moreover, the trend is for that gap to widen still further.

Our states pool their efforts to carry out joint, creative action. They are guided by the desire to build together, improve their management of the available resources, and march together toward the goal that has been set. That goal is well known. The CEMA countries' whole system of cooperation and reciprocal aid serves the interests of the working people and the realization of socialism's chief aim: the improvement of the people's well being.

Our socialist community has peaceful intentions and peaceful aims. The peoples of our countries need peace to implement their noble plans, and those people in the West -- and not only the West -- who try to assert the contrary are guilty of vicious slander. We were saying just now that imperialism is afraid of peaceful coexistence and peaceful competition with real socialism. In fact, this is not concealed in the West, either. In particular the West German philosopher Schlamm made a very frank admission in this regard. If you don't mind, I shall quote what Schlamm said: The monstrous essence of the conflict between communism and the West -- which is how he refers to imperialism -- is sinister and consists of the fact that communism is prospering in conditions of peace, wants peace, and triumphs in peace. Further, this philosopher states literally as follows: If the West wants to avoid destruction, it must come to realize its terrible resolve to wage war. A bloodthirsty statement, of course. Schlamm essentially recognizes that the capitalist world is historically doomed and confirms that captialists reach for their weapons when they feel the ground shaking beneath their feet.

[Volskiy] But, Boris Vasilyevich, there is a historical logic in this. The deepening of capitalism's general crisis is now lending the imperialist forces' policy a more and more adventurist nature. At the same time, the evident truth that it is none other than imperialism that has been and remains the primary cause and source of wars is revealed.

[Andrianov] In fact, the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems retain their importance to this day and are particularly necessary to peoples now, in the age of nuclear weapons and super-precise missiles, as never before. Unfortunately, however, as Comrade Chernenko noted, to all appearances certain leaders of the captialist countries clearly do not realize this, or do not want to realize it. Taking the aggressive calculations of the imperialist circles into account, the countries of our socialist community are taking measures to counter the military threat. They respond to it by further consolidating their unity and their economic and defense potential. Both the security of the fraternal countries and the fate of peace as a whole depend on this.

At the beginning of this week the peoples of our community and all those who value dearly the future of mankind marked the 29th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact. As you know, the signing of that document marked the beginning of the organization for the collective defense of the socialist states against the threat that arose against them following the founding of the North Atlantic bloc in 1949. After all, that bloc was not founded for the defense of the United States of America and its allies: no one threatened them -- nor do they now.

The imperialists needed this aggressive military alliance chiefly as a tool for struggling against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and against the national liberation movement. The essence of NATO has not changed up to the present day, so the threat to the security of the socialist states still exists. No matter how hard they in the West have tried to distort the historical facts, the truth is that the Warsaw Pact was a countermeasure that the socialist states were forced to take. This defensive military and political alliance of the countries of our community, as Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko stressed, acts as a reliable shield in the fight to prevent nuclear war and frustrate the most reactionary circles of imperialism's attempts to organize a crusade against socialism.

In the current conditions, when the international tension is sharply exacerbated, the task of restoring the trust that has been and continues to be undermined by the actions of Washington and its allies in their attempts to achieve military superiority assumes particular importance. Therefore, concrete, practical measures to resolutely channel developments toward normalization are needed. The harsh logic of today's realities suggests that the strengthening of trust between states is now a key link in the efforts that must be constantly stepped up in order to strengthen peace and security in Europe and beyond. This is the aim of the large-scale proposals that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have made over the past 2 weeks.

[Nekrasov] In this connection, Boris Vasiliyevich, I'd like to come back to the question of the Warsaw Pact. You've spoken well of its defensive, protective functions, but at the same time, as events have shown, it is an important factor that has a positive influence on the international situation through its initiatives directed towards normalizing international life -- and at times achieving very significant successes in that cause. As you certainly recall, the most vivid example was the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the idea for the convening of which was first put forward by the Warsaw Pact.

Today, as you know, lively discussion of the new proposal by the countries united in the Warsaw Pact continues. This is the proposal addressed to the NATO members that multilateral joint consultations begin with a view to concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations.

[Andrianov] The day after these proposals were put forward in Budapest the Soviet Union submitted a lengthy document setting out concrete measures to strengthen trust and security in Europe at the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, which had resumed in Stockholm and in which -- as you know -- 33 European states and the United States and Canada are taking part. Among other things, the document codifies and develops the large-scale political trust-building measures expounded by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko in his speech at the opening of the Stockholm Conference in January: the proposal that a treaty should be concluded on the non-use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations. All these new steps are more vivid proof of the tireless efforts of the USSR and its allies to avert war and restore detente.

[Nekrasov] The great importance of this proposal is shown by the fact that today it is still a subject of animated discussion in the West. It would seem that the idea of such a treaty is striking ever deeper roots in the public mind in many countries. You might say it is already becoming an operative factor in the international situation of our time.

[Volskiy] But as far as we know, Vadim Nikolayevich, the Western powers -- above all, of course, the United States -- reject the idea of such a treaty. They reject it under the pretext that the principle of non-use of military force is already established in the UN Charter and it is also mentioned in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference. For this reason, they claim, there's no point in returning to this question again in a new international document.

[Nekrasov] Of course it is established. But, as we know, that did not stop American imperialism from waging a dirty interventionist war in Vietnam and it was no obstacle to the piractical attack on Grenada and other acts of aggression using military force. It's one thing to establish some principle in a general international document -- beyond doubt, that is very important in itself -- but the signing of a treaty that develops that principle into concrete clauses imposing a precise and definite obligation on the signatories is no less important. From the point of view of international law, that sounds a great deal more binding on each of the parties that have signed it.

That is well understood in the West -- not only in the ruling circles, but also among bro sections of the public, which in our time are becoming ever more effective agents in international relations. Consider: Today, the idea of starting talks on a treaty of this kind -- talks suggested by the socialist countries -- is no longer being rejected out of hand, as was the case even a month ago. In the West they've begun to refer to such talks as a real possibility. The opponents of the treaty no longer bluntly venture to say that it's unnecessary. Today their position is that the idea proposed by the socialist countries can and should be discussed -- not now, but later: in a year or two, perhaps. Thus, it is obvious that today much depends upon the pressure that can be brought to bear in this matter by the international public -- that is, the popular masses in the Western countries.

[Volskiy] Vadim Nikolayevich, when you look at the commentaries that are being published in connection with this in the West you can see what it is about the Warsaw Pact countries' proposals that attracts the public: It is the idea they contain of collective -- that is, joint -- security by means of averting wars. Here I think that it is of interest to recall that for many decades now the Soviet Union has been putting the idea of collective security forward as a highly important principle of international relations, and one that helps to avert military conflicts among states. During World War II the United States, Britain, and other members of the anti-Hitler coalition fully supported this principle, but after the war they preferred to forget about it and embarked on the path of concluding closed, separate military blocs directed towards preparing for a new war.

[Nekrasov] Now the idea of collective security is once again gaining support -- above all, of course, among the wider public and in the ranks of the mass antiwar movements. Evidence of the scale of that support is found in the fact that even some of the politicians who but yesterday reiterated that the only way to provide security is to build up the West's military might have now found themselves forced to speak in its favor, that is, in favor of such security. The main point here is that the actions of the Reagan administration and its closest NATO allies have awakened a wide realization of the danger that hangs over the world in connection with the plans to unleash a nuclear war and inflict a first strike. That doesn't mean, of course, that the opponents of detente -- all those who support the American Administration's militarist course -- that these forces are already on the retreat. By no means: The latest series of sessions of the leading organs of NATO proves it.

NATO Meetings

[Andrianov] As you know, the NATO Council session is set for the end of May, and will be held at a high level, since it will officially mark the 35th anniversary of the existence of the North Atlantic bloc -- the main contemporary military-political association of capitalist states. On the eve of that event, however, preparatory sessions are being held at NATO headquarters in Brussels. Last week there were sessions of the so-called Consultative Group on Nuclear Weapons in Europe; sessions of the Eurogroup, in which the West European member-countries of the bloc participate; and, finally, a session of the NATO military planning committee. What can you tell us about their content, Vadim Nikolayevich?

[Nekrasov] Nothing new, really: Once again there was discussion of questions connected with the deployment of first-strike nuclear missiles in Europe, with the American side -- as always -- putting pressure on its allies and demanding unswerving observance of the planned timetable for deployment of the missiles. The Netherlands and its representatives are right now being subjected to particularly strong pressure. As you know, the government of that country has still not given its formal consent to the deployment on its territory of the 48 cruise missiles that it is due to receive under the NATO apportionment, so to speak.

Then there's the Danish Parliament, which has refused to allocate funds for measures to do with the deployment of the missiles, as Denmark was supposed to do under the scheme imposed by the NATO Council. If the preparatory sessions demonstrated anything new, it was that the situation within NATO continues to get gradually worse. The clashes among its members are not subsiding, but becoming ever more painful.

[Volskiy] Vadim Nikolayevich, in talking about the latest measures at the NATO sessions, one can't fail to notice that at these sessions U.S. Secretary of State Shultz once again called for the sphere of the Atlantic bloc's sphere of operations to be extended beyond the limits of what you might call its traditional zone, that is, the North Atlantic. Above all, what he had in mind was extending it to the Near East. Well, the way events have already developed clearly shows that the Americans' attempts to draw the Atlantic bloc into Near Eastern affairs is proving to be an obvious failure. We saw that last winter in Lebanon, when the thoroughly tattered multinational force of the NATO countries, led by the American Marines, pulled out with banners lowered, as they say. The Americans -- as the London magazine THE ECONOMIST expressed it -- got a bloody nose in Lebanon.

This isn't just an admission of the failure of Washington and NATO. Another aspect of the matter is now emerging: However difficult the situation in Lebanon may be, it is becoming ever more obvious that imperialism's defeat in that country has at least opened up some possibilities for normalizing the internal situation there. Even though internecine strife flares up from time to time, there is shooting and innocent people are still being killed, a government of national unity has been set up in Lebanon and is beginning to operate, with the main rival groups represented in it.

It is very important that this government officially set itself the aim of liberating the south of Lebanon, where the popular struggle is now widening, from Israeli occupation. All in all, in spite of Israeli aggression and the NATO incursion, the attempt to swallow up Lebanon has failed, and this, of course, affects the whole Arab world, which is, I should say, increasingly gaining confidence in its own powers. This is what really lies at the root of what the Israeli expansionists are up to in the Near East, primarily in Lebanon. They can see no way out for themselves other than in attempts to frighten the Arabs with more acts of brutality and genocide, such as we have just seen exemplified in the reprisals in one of the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon, which is occupied by Israeli troops.

Of course, this was not just an act of revenge and national hatred. It was motivated by political aims, and very far-reaching ones, at that: heating up the situation in the Near East even further and rocking the boat even more, so to speak, for only in such conditions can Tel Aviv count on realizing its plans. Concerning the present ultra-chauvinistic government of Begin's successor Shamir, in particular, it can only rely upon precisely such growing tension in its attempts to win this summer's elections in Israel and remain in power.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that the Camp David process has reached an impasse, the Israeli-Lebanese agreement has been annulled, and so success is being achieved in establishing Israeli or American domination over the Arab world. On the broader, and one may say, global level, this is indeed an instructive lesson. In our time attempts to subordinate this or that people to imperialist domination lead to one result alone: heightened tension and an increase in the military threat.

We can clearly see this in at least two other regions at the moment: first, in the immediate proximity of the Near East, in the Persian Gulf zone, where the Iran-Iraq war has assumed the form of air attacks on various countries' shipping, which the United States of America -- and, perhaps, its allies as well -- are preparing to make use of without any dissemblance. Secondly, there is another region: Central America.

Central America

[Nekrasov] Furthermore, Dmitriy Antonovich, the Americans are continually increasing their arsenals in Central America, -- as well as increasing their aggressive actions -- and are operating in two directions at once here: against the Salvadoran patriots and against Nicaragua. In both these cases the main U.S. bridgehead has become Honduras, which is situated between them.

[Volskiy] What is now going on in Honduras itself is typical, though less well known: what is going on not on the surface, but beneath it -- particularly in the Army, which would seem to be Washington's main support in this small republic. This is what THE WASHINGTON POST has reported, for instance. Honduran officers, this newspaper said, are calling the entire style of Honduras' loyalty to American policy into question. Again, not all officers are involved here, but a considerable sector of the officer corps, particularly many battalion commanders, who traditionally play an influential role in the Honduran army. Unrest is growing among these and in the junior ranks, too.

The reason for this unrest is understandable, for they and their men are they very ones who are to shed blood for Washington's interests if the Reagan administration incites, for example, a Honduran-Nicaraguan war. Furthermore, among the military men of this sector there are growing fears of being isoldated in their own country and among their own population, which wants least of all for Honduras to be dragged into an unnecessary military adventure that is counter to their interests.

This is why I think Honduras' support is becoming less and less reliable for Washington. It is no accident that increasingly persistent discussions about preparations for using the Reagan administration's own troops in Central America in the near future can be heard.

[Andrianov] Can the Reagan administration, Dmitriy Antonovich, permit itself to get involved in such an aggressive adventure in Central America on the threshold of the U.S. Presidential elections?

[Volskiy] Well, Boris Vasilyevich, one can only hazard a guess on that account. Of course, such a move is fraught with unforeseeable consequences, but it is not excluded that Reagan or his supporters might count on inflating chauvinism and even, perhaps, provoking a conflict and drawing the United States into it in order that this militaristic and chauvinistic wave might sweep the present President back into the White House, as was the case last time. It is typical that this course in Central America is provocative in a broader, international sense, for it is not isolated: It is linked with the Reagan administration's entire policy, which is conducted not only in the vicinity of the United States but also in areas distant from it, in distant oceans such as the Indian Ocean, the part of the Pacific Ocean opposite the United States, and the whole of Asia.

Olympic Games

[Andrianov] The policy of whipping up international tension that the Reagan administration is conducting in the world arena finds full expression in the sports arena, too. As the Pakistani newspaper MUSALMAN stated, the splinters of the cold war flying from Washington have led to a chilling of the international climate. Now the United States has mixed sport with politics, and, what is more, it is trying to accuse the Soviet Union of this. These attempts, however, are rejected by all honest people.

(Ernez de Mayo), prominent U.S. trade unionist, described the Reagan administration's ignoble political maneuvers over the 23d Olympic Games in Los Angeles as an insult to the American people.

While the majority of Americans, he said, are against war and strive for peace and to develop ties with the Soviet Union, the U.S. authorities have done everything possible to hinder the Soviet sportsmen from arriving on American soil and to wreck holding the games in the spirit of friendship and genuine sporting competition. No matter how much the U.S. Administration's official representatives have been excelling in lies and demagogy, (Ernez de Mayo) underlined, the fact remains: They have crudely trampled upon the ideals of the Olympic movement. Ronald Reagan's bellicose anti-Soviet rhetoric and actions have fully untied the hands of the most reactionary anticommunist forces and encouraged extremist groupings to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria in the United States. In these conditions, the U.S. trade union official declared, it is impossible for Soviet sportsmen to come to the United States.

Continuing this same idea, Thomas Boswell, WASHINGTON POST sports observer, commented that no self-respecting state would send its citizens anywhere where they could become targets of mockery and insults or hostages. A great number of similar statements can be heard abroad. These bear witness to the fact that the broad international public has greeted the decision of the USSR and other countries not to participate in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles because of the hostile conditions deliberately created by the United States with support and understanding. Washington is stigmatized in the most diverse circles abroad for actions that demonstrate that the Reagan administration regards the 1984 Summer Olympics merely as a device in a dirty political game. This unseemly provocative undertaking on Washington's part has shown what the White House human rights zealots are really like -- in fact, crudely trampling these rights and in actual fact resorting to methods of international terrorism.

We bring our round table meeting to an end on that note. All those taking part thank you for your attention, esteemed radio listeners. Goodbye, and all the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD181731 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 18 May 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, All-Union Radio commentator; with Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, All-Union Radio political observer; and Egon Winkelmann, member of the SED Central Committee and GDR ambassador to the USSR]

[Excerpts] [Lavrentyev] We receive many letters from our listeners which express serious concern about the present tense international situation. The letter writers, pensioner Otich from Leningrad, Timoshin from Moscow, regular listener Yakov Tikhonovich Makarov from the settlement of Krivozerye, Penza Oblast, ask what measures are being undertaken to strengthen peace, and to return the development of events into the channel of detente. I shall ask our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver to reply to these questions.

[Zholkver] Well, first of all, I cannot but agree with those of our listeners who note that the international situation at present is very tense. Moreover, it is rather dangerous. The whole reason for this is that there are forces, unfortunately, which have linked their interests with the arms race and openly count on undermining the existing military-strategic balance in the contemporary world. Here we are talking the most aggressive forces of imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism.

Arms Limitation

[Lavrentyev] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, our listeners are interested in hearing how things as a whole stand with regard to the problem of limiting nuclear weapons in Europe.

[Zholkver] Well, it must be said that the situation here has become greatly complicated. Having begun to deploy U.S. missiles in Western Europe aimed at our country and at the other socialist countries, Washington and those in NATO who follow it unreservedly have undermined the process of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons. They have made the talks on strategic weapons and on nuclear weapons in Europe purposeless.

True, of late, appeals have been heard from Washington and some other Western capitals for contacts and talks. However, there is nothing substantial behind these appeals. The proposals put forward for discussion are so deliberately unacceptable that they just confirm on e again that they do not want serious businesslike talks.

For its part, the USSR is ready for dialogue. But we are in favor of a dialogue full of real content. The opportinity for the resumption of talks on nuclear weapons could be opened up if the U.S. side removes the obstacles which it has erected and if it restores the former situation.

[Lavrentyev] I believe it should be noted that in its foreign political initiatives the USSR acts in close contact with other socialist countries.

[Zholkver] Moreover, I would say that this is our joint and united policy. Let us take for example the proposal on concluding a treaty on the non-use of military force.

[Lavrentyev] I think that mention should be made of the fact that our country not only puts forward various peace initiatives but also, in practice, conducts a policy of peaceful coexistence among states with differing social systems.

[Zholkver] Yes, a clear example of this is the successful development of our relations with Spain, as was confirmed during the visit by King Juan Carlos. It is sufficient to recall that in the past decade our trade turnover with Spain has increased more than 13-fold. Also, Comrade Chernenko noted at the dinner in honor of the head of the Spanish state, we are convinced that only in conditions of a firm peace is it possible to solve the increasingly complicated problems facing mankind on the threshold of the third millennium.

GDR Policy Initiatives

[Lavrentyev] A regular listener from Cheboksary, Andrey Svetlanov, asks us to describe, taking one of the fraternal countries as an example, how the coordinated policy of the socialist countries is being implemented in the international arena. By way of an answer to that question, we bring you an interview between our correspondent and Comrade Winkelmann, member of the SED Central Committee and ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentinary of the GDR in the Soviet Union.

[Winkelmann] It will be no exaggeration if I say, not without pride, that the GDR is respected throughout the world as a state that consistently and enterprisingly devotes all its efforts and prestige to serving the aims of the coordinated policy of the fraternal socialist countries, to preserve peace and develop relations among states for the good of their peoples.

When, nearly 35 years ago, our state was created, Europe still bore the traces of the Second World War, unleashed by German fascism, It was, therefore, logical that the first German socialist state should have stepped into the international arena with the oath to do all to ensure that never again will a war begin from German soil. That pledge has determined our actions from the moment that the GDR was formed, right up to the present day.

And we are now particularly conscious of that obligation, since the fanatics of the arms race and confrontation are dangerously exacerbating the world situation -- all the more so as the other Geraman state, the FRG, which is one of the closest allies of the U.S., has readily made its territory available for the deployment of new American first-strike weapons aimed at the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community. The GDR's tireless participation in the struggle for peace is determined particularly by its geographical situation, since our republic is right on the dividing line between socialism and imperialism -- between the Warsaw Pact and NATO.

Due to the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe, especially the FRG, when the world entered its most dangerous period of post-war development, the GDR lost no time, along with the USSR and in accordance with the decisions of the Warsaw Pact, in taking the retaliatory measures that had become necessary, on its territory. And, together with the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community, we do not confine ourselves to military measures to protect our gains. The GDR is actively fighting for implementation of the initiatives undertaken by the states of the socialist community. I will merely remind you that at the Stockholm conference, the GDR persistently urged that an agreement be concluded between the Warsaw Pact and NATO to renounce the use of military force and maintain peaceful relations. At the end of April, the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chariman of the GDR State Council, Erich Honecker, stressed the need to avert the nuclear self-destruction that is threatening mankind. The peoples, he said, must be given an outlook of peace. A constructive foundation for this is provided by the proposals of the Soviet Union, GDR and other countries of the socialist community put forward in Prague and Moscow, for stopping the arms race, limiting armaments and achieving disarmament in accordance with the principles of parity and equal security. The GDR resolutely supports the policy of the Soviet Union, which, as has been emphasized by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, is directed towards once again at creating an atmosphere of international trust.

Juan Carlos Visit

[Lavrentyev] Aleksandr Plotnikov from Tashkent asks: What is the role of King Juan Carlos in the country's political life? According to the Spanish Constitution, the king is head of state, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and represents the country at the highest level abroad. The king applies considerable efforts to strengthening Spain's international prestige. Confirmation of this was his visit to our country.

The Soviet leaders' meetings with Juan Carlos showed the mutual interest in lessening international tension and confirmed the adherence of both countries to the principle of peaceful cooperation among states with differing social systems, and expressed their interests in expanding comprehensive links for the good of the peoples of the USSR and Spain.

U.S. Elections

[Lavrentyev] To complete the subject of the preelection battles in the United States I will answer the more general question from our listener from the town of Khimki, Moscow Oblast, Lidiya Shapurina. She asks about the progress of the primary elections. As far as the Republican Party is concerned, the current president, Reagan, has no rivals within the party, as you know.

And the present head of the White House naturally faces no problem in obtaining votes from the delegates to the coming party congress which will determine its representative. The organizers of Reagan's preelection campaign are now paying the main attention to publicizing the so-called successes of the Reagan administration. For this purpose a whole series of TV shorts has been made which will be shown to the electors right up to the presidential elections themselves. Reagan's trip to Western Europe is to be turned into a big preelection show. In June all the President's men go to Ireland, the homeland of Reagan's ancestors; then the President will take part in the summit conference of the leading capitalist powers and the 4-year jubilee of the landing of the Allied troops in Normandy.

Papal Assailant Antonov

[Lavrentyev] Our listeners Sergey Poduba and Artanes Abgoryan, students from Syktyvkar are interested in the fate of Bulgarian citizen Antonov, arrested by the Italian authorities in the autumn of 1982 allegedly for complicity in the attempted assassination in Rome of the head of the Roman Catholic Church, John Paul II. Will Sergei Antonov be released, they ask, pointing out reasonably that all the charges against him have already virtually been admitted to be groundless.

Unfortunately, it is still quite impossible to give a positive answer to this question. The new lead which the Italian authorities have given in the notorious Antonov affair does not give cause for optimism. Moreover, it increases anxiety for the fate of a man innocent of any crime who has become the victim of a scandalous anti-communist, anti-Bulgarian provocation.

Recently a representative of Italy's procurator general's office, Albano, presented the official decision which demands the commitment for trial of Antonov who has been languishing in a Rome jail for more than a year on a false charge. According to the official ruling, strange as it may seem, statements by Turkish terrorist Agca, who shot at the Pope in May 1981, have been accepted as authentic. However, statements by representatives of investigation agencies and of the Italian procurator general's office in which the testimony of the neo-fascist criminal against the Bulgarian citizen were called false and slanderous are well known. Such statements were made by people who were directly involved in investigating Agca's charge. They provided grounds for the Bulgarian, Italian and world public to hope that Sergey Antonov would be released quickly since the whole case against him was built only on the evidence of the Turkish terrorist.

These hopes were strengthened with the Bulgarian's transfer from a prison cell to house arrest, although this was motivated only by the prisoner's health. It seemed that justice would finally triumph. But suddenly the Italian Themis, as if suddenly remembering something, went back on its word.

After 3 months of house arrest Antonov was again thrown behind bars, as if for his own security. But now they are already speaking of the need to try him, shamelessly consigning to oblivion the exposing of Agca's slander. The strange zig-zags of the Italian judiciary are not surprising if one considers the pressure exerted on it by the Italian intelligence services and the United States CIA, which concocted the foul affair against the Bulgarian citizen and are aiming to have him convicted whatever the cost.

For the Antonov story is not merely a judicial case. It is a question, as has been said, of a large-scale provocation planned and prepared in advance to smear Bulgaria and the whole of the socialist community and to ascribe to it complicity in international terrorism. The Italian authorities in holding an innocent man behind bars and mocking the very concept of justice, are clearly acting on orders from Washington, which is obsessed with spreading anticommunist hysteria.

The Italian democratic press also writes about the fact that the organizers of the anti-Bulgarian provocation should be sought across the ocean. It notes in particular that before Agca started making statements against Antonov he was worked on fundamentally by Western secret services, first and foremost by the CIA, whose agents visited him repeatedly in prison.

In light of all this it is clear that it will not be easy to free the Bulgarian citizen from behind walls from the tenacious hands of the knights of cloak and dagger. But the fight for his freedom, life and honorable name continues. We shall hope and believe that in the end it will be crowned with success. Regarding the attempts in connection with the so-called Antonov affair as denigration of the socialist countries' policy, then even today one can say that they will fail completely.

U.S. Pressure on ASEAN States

Comrades Grachev from Gorkiy, Malakov from Vitebsk, and Seminikin from Vladivostok ask about the Association of South East Asian Nations -- ASEAN -- and about the policy conducted by the participants in this organization on the international arena.

Since its very creation, this organization has been the object of great attention from the neo-colonialists and primarily from the United States, Britain and certain other Western powers. It must be said that the intrigues of imperialism and reaction have far from always been given a necessary and united rebuff by the members of the association. Making use of the economic difficulties of the ASEAN countries, the imperialist powers have been striving to intensify their influence in the economic sphere and to hinder in every way the independent economic development of the states of this bloc. Thus, U.S. investments in these countries amount to about 10 billion dollars; Japanese investments exceed 5 billion.

The Western powers not only plunder the national wealth of the states of this region; the main aim of the imperialist forces and primarily of the United States is to force the ASEAN countries, as they say, to change their signboards. Washington is stubbornly urging this organization to engage in military-strategic cooperation with the United States and its allies in aggressive blocs. The imperialists would very much like to see in this region of the world yet another military alliance, under, of course, United States aegis.

The method which imperialist propaganda has available to achieve this is not new. It tries in every way to frighten the ASEAN countries with nonexistent threats from other countries of Southeast Asia which conduct a peace-loving and independent foreign policy -- Vietnam, for example. Washington and certain other Western powers' capitals do not spare lies and all sorts of fabrications about the policy of the USSR in Asia. They spread dirty fables about imaginary secret aims of our country in this region.

However, the crude political and economic pressure of the West on the association's member-states arouse in these states' public the striving to defend their independence. Thus, for example, Malaysia has put a complete ban on the activity of foreign capital in a number of industries. The Government of Thailand has instructed that there should be a limit of 40 percent on the proportion of foreign capital investment in the country's mining companies. A polite but firm rebuff was given to the recent call by U.S. Vice President Bush in Indonesia to unite the efforts of the ASEAN countries with the so-called free world.

The vital interests of the ASEAN countries insistently dictate the necessity for them to develop their foreign economic links on the basis of genuine equality and mutual advantage, independent development of their economies, the maintenance of peace not only in Asia but also throughout the world. Only in conditions of peace can the aims which the states in that organization have set themselves be achieved.

FURTHER MATERIALS ON OLYMPICS WITHDRAWAL

Pozner Scorns U.S. Arguments

LD181526 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 May 84

[Vladimir Pozner commentary]

[Text] The Soviet Union's decision not to go to Los Angeles is based on several things, most prominent among them being the issues of security and the unwillingness to be subjected to harassment and insults by anti-Soviet extremist groups. Now that is a well-known fact that ever since it has been announced has had the American establishment on the defensive. From the White House to the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the reaction has been to counter the Soviet charge by denying its truth. However, in the absence of proof, and there really has been none provided whatsoever, the simple denial of security danger is not really effective. I can just imagine you-know-who calling on, say, Peter Ueberroth and saying: Come on, Pete, you've got to do better than that! And believe it or not, they have indeed come up with something better. Hold on to your chair, take a deep breath, and if possible have your psychiatrist hold your hand. Now listen:

Had the Soviets come to L.A. says the new argument, the safety of all athletes would have been complete, but it is their pull-out that has now created security problems. Say what? Exactly what you heard! Let me quote Robert (Copperman) director of Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies: If the Soviets had come, he said, they would have done all they could to avoid the terrorist acts that people often assume are Soviet-inspired. Now the Soviets do not have nearly the incentive to discourage such acts.

So what (Mr Copperman) is suggesting, and what is being jumped at as a new and creative way to counter the Soviet argument, is that the USSR's concerns about security were really nothing but a smokescreen because it is the USSR that terrorist groups report to. Those groups would never attack Soviet athletes and that was the reason behind the so-called mix-and-match strategy devised to protect the athletes in Los Angeles. That plan calls for mingling athletes, both in housing and transportation, and that mingling of Soviet athletes would discourage terrorists from striking out at other sportsmen. Now that the Soviets are out, the terrorists will feel free to act. So who is to blame for security problems during the Los Angeles Olympic Games? All together now, yes that's right: It is again the Russians!

It is a new twist, and hats off to the Rand Corporation or whoever came up with it. However, I would like to inject just a wee bit of logic into this discussion. There has not been a single threat uncovered from any international terrorist group. This is conceded by the U.S. and other Western intelligence sources. On the other hand, there have been threats from the JDL, that's the Jewish Defense League, and the Ban on Soviets Coalition. David Bolziger, leader of the coalition, claims members have from 10 to 100 tickets for each Olympic event. You are not allowed to demonstrate in the stands, but since when did such considerations stop extemists from doing what they want?

So, what I am suggesting is that the argument advanced by (Mr Copperman) be developed into something really effective and truly spectacular.

It goes like this: the "Ban the Soviets" coalition is really a Russian front organization made up of agents who pose as ex-Soviet citizens. The coalition was the branchild of a diabolical plan and of course a diabolical mind. It was devised to give Moscow a supposedly legitimate reason to pull out of the games and simultaneously invite their agents to commit acts of terrorism against the athletes of the free world, who would have been shielded by Soviet bodies. I offer this argument in all humility but with the certainty that it is far better than the one now being presented.

Shipment of Gear Continues

LD181249 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS -- One can see in the picture a smiling young women demonstrating an illuminated indicator panel, electronic blocks and other sport equipment. The inscription under the picutre runs: "Soviet fencing equipment recognised as the best by the International Fencing Federation. It is intended for use at the Los Angeles Olympic Games."

This photograph with the inscription were printed in the latest issue of the newspaper MOSCOW NEWS.

Yes, the Soviet Union continues deliveries of sport equipment for the 23rd Summer Games, as it promised, though Soviet athletes will not participate in the Los Angeles Olympics.

This is striking evidence of the fact that the Soviet Union does not boycott the 23rd Olympics. Boycott implies political pressure upon governments of other countries, economic sanctions which was observed during the boycott of the Moscow Olympics in 1980 by the United States of America and some other states, said at the recent press conference in Moscow Marat Gramov, chairman of the Sports Committee and the NOC of the USSR. "We do not call upon anybody to give up participation in the games, our enterprises having contracts with the Olympic Committee of Los Angeles will honour their obligations," said Gramov.

The inscription under the picture, printed in the MOSCOW NEWS, also says: "At the press conference Marat Gramov cited the following fact: The USSR supplies Los Angeles games with equipment, worth four million roubles, free of charge and though we took the decision not to participate in the games, we shall honour fully our obligations to Los Angeles and all the equipment will be supplied in a way stipulated in the contract."

Unbearable Olympic Situation

LD182230 Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] A 1-day extraordinary session of the International Olympic Committee Executive Committee opened in Lausanne. The reports we have received indicate that the topic of the session is the unbearable situation which was created in Los Angeles closely before opening the summer Olympic Games. The administration is lenient about the activity of 160 subversive organizations, which are preparing terrorist actions against all sportsmen who do not suit them. Olympic Committee Deputy Chairman Ashwini Kumar, who recently visited Los Angeles, said that the city is filled with the atmosphere of real psychological war.

The weekly ALGERIE ACTUALITE says that Los Angeles is not preparing for the sports festivities but for blackening all Olympic values. The press of many countries says that the U.S. Administration grossly violated the rules and thesis of the Olympic Charter and shows indignation over the commercialism ruling the Los Angeles games. In these conditions, the USSR National Olympic Committee and the committees of eight other socialist countries and Afghanistan were forced to make a decision not to take part in the Olympic Games.

Hungary Withdrawal Noted

LD182126 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Budapest May 18 TASS -- The Hungarian newspaper NEPSZABADSAG published a commentary on the decision of the National Olympic Committee of the country not to send Hungarian athletes to the Los Angeles Olympics.

Sport has long-standing traditions in our country, NEPSZABADSAG writes. The world has always regarded with appreciation the achievements of Hungarian athletes who took an active part in the games throughout modern Olympic history and have always held high the banner of the Olympic ideals, peace and friendship. The National Olympic Committee of Hungary has always been guided by those principles. Today realistically-minded figures in the West, NEPSZABADSAG notes, admit that every influential forces are operating behind the scenes of the Los Angeles Olympics, trying to poison the atmosphere of the games. These included more than 160 anti-Soviet, anti-communist groupings which are getting ready for subversive actions against the participants in the Olympic Games.

Socialist countries made a timely protest against the actions which flagrantly violate the Olympic ideals, NEPSZABADSAG writes. However, their grievances were not met.

It should be noted with regret that as a consequence of the atmosphere of anti-communism, mistrust and suspicion conditions have not been created for making the Olympics a competition of athletes in the spirit of sportsmanship or a festival of friendship of youth. Loyal to the Olympics ideals, Hungary protests against the use of the Olympics by the forces interested in working up international tension for attaining their aims.

NEPSZABADSAG writes that all sports fans sincerely regret that Hungarian athletes who were training hard for the Olympics cannot take part in the competitions in the present circumstances. Hungarian athletes who represent their socialist moterland are always ready for friendly competitions with sportsmen from the countries with the different social system. We do hope, NEPSZABADSAG writes, that common sense will prevail. It will be the intrigues devised to undermine the idea of the Olympic games, and not the Olympic movement, that will end in total failure.

Gramov on Lausanne IOC Meeting

LD200915 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Sessions of the Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee [IOC], which discussed the problems connected with the holding of the summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, have ended in Lausanne. Taking part in the work of the IOC Executive Committee were representatives of National Olympic Committees [NOC] from various countries and the International Sports Federation. Our correspondent Vsevolod Shishkovskiy asked Marat Vladimirovich Gramov, chairman of the USSR NOC, to talk about the meetings and talks that took place:

[Begin Gramov recording] The session of the Executive Committee examined the arguments on which we made the decision not to participate in the Olympic Games. The IOC Executive Committee adopted a resolution in which it expressed its regret that because of security conditions a number of countries have declined to take part in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. After the Executive Committee had met, a trilateral meeting took place between the IOC Executive Committee, Association of National Olympic Committees and the International Sporting Federations.

We set out our arguments, which were accepted with understanding by the majority of those present, and it seems that the case now is for excluding similar future instances when the Olympic Charter is violated, when conditions are created whereby the National Olympic Committees cannot take part in the Olympic Games. We have talked in detail about the activities of the U.S. Administration, and of the U.S. NOC, which over a protracted period of time have undertaken all possible measures in order not to allow the Soviet Union team to take part in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. We have put the question to the International Olympic Committees on the subject of drafting measures which would prevent similar cases. Evidently, when choosing the place to hold the Olympic Games serious thought must be given to the question of whether it is the right country in which to [word indistinct] the Olympic Games. [end recording]

UK Athlete Questions Security

LD210904 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 21 May 84

[Text] Moscow, May 21 TASS -- Trying to free itself of the responsibility for creating an intolerable situation in Los Angeles which has made it impossible for Soviet athletes to take part in the summer games, American authorities are trying to convince the world public opinion that they are not to blame here, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today.

Trying to lay the blame on someone else, Washington and the voices singing in unison with it are spreading all kinds of false stories, including the story that the USSR has made the move to "retaliation" for the boycott at the 1980 Olympics by the governments of the U.S.A. and some other Western countries, or nearly out of fear in the face of possibility that Soviet athletes may defect en masse as soon as they find themselves in a "free" land.

This kind of unseemly tricks, PRAVDA says, meets with strong resentment on the part of the British sporting community.

In this connection, PRAVDA quotes remarks made by Christopher Brasher, Olympic track title winner, in an interview with the British weekly OBSERVER. He expressed doubts that the reason why the Russians and some of their allies have declined to take part in the 23rd Olympic Games was the 'tit for tat' principle.

The true reason for that, in the opinion of Christopher Brasher, is that they are sincerely concerned over the security of their athletes. They are not concerned over possible defections, the Olympic title winner insists, because Russia's track and field teams, just as Russian gymnasts and ice hockey players have toured the whole world without a single case of that kind.

Christopher Brasher says he visited the United States thrice in 1984, and each time he returned home with a growing sense of apprehension over the passions being worked up there.

In an atmosphere poisoned by chauvinistic frenzy and anti-Soviet sentiments internationally generated by the ruling circles of the U.S.A. around the games in Los Angeles, fighting men from the groupings of extremists operating in California could out of sheer sadistic pleasure put a bullet through the back of an athlete wearing a Soviet sports suit.

Reader Betty Horsfall from the city of Lidney writes in a letter to the editor of THE TIMES of London that American games' organisers have tirelessly been blackening and degrading the image of the Soviet Union and are now threatening Soviet athletes with violence. Not a single country would permit its young people to be put in such intolerable conditions. This is not a retaliation for 1980, she adds, but a carefully considered decision.

Smog Will Hamper Performances

LD210804 Moscow TASS in English 1739 GMT 21 May 84

[Text] New York, May 21 TASS -- Physical abilities of athletes who are to participate this year in the Summer Olympic Games could be negatively affected by a high level of harmful substances, a result of the waste of production, which contaminate the atmosphere of Log Angeles, and their results might be largely impaired. This is the conclusion drawn by the American lung. [as received]

As was stated in Miami Beach, Flordia, by representative of the association, chairman of the scientific forum on implications for 1984 Olympics Donald Horstman, smog which is contained in the Los Angeles atmosphere can not only influence the results of competitions, it could cause sharp pain in the thorax of athletes. According to Donald Horstman, in the area of Los Angeles the content of harmful substances which hamper breathing and respiration metabolism is particularly great in July and August, i.e. in exactly the months when Summer Olympic Games are to be held.

Experiments that were held by scientists, he said, showed that these substances will exert the most noticeable effect on the physical ability of long-distance racers, footballers, and some other athletes. According to the association, the lungs of the athletes in Los Angeles will function poorer by 15-20 percent than usually. Donald Horstman said that the athletes who participated in experimental training arranged by the association were unable to reach the finish, since some time after the beginning of the experiment they started coughing, suffocating, and felt pain in the lower part of the thorax. As was admitted by the scientist, all that poses a considerable threat to competitions of the Summer Olympics.

STATE DEPARTMENT 'INVOLVED' IN SAKHAROV CASE

LD191216 Moscow TASS in English 1201 GMT 19 May 84

["More on the 'Sakharovs' Case'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- Commentator Vyacheslav Slavin writes:

American organisers of another anti-Soviet campaign with the use of Sakharov and his wife, Bonner, have gotten into a mess. During a briefing at the U.S. Department of State spokesmen for the foreign policy agency did not have to admit what has long been reported in the Soviet press concerning a far-reaching operation involving those renegades -- the operation prepared in accordance with a carefully considered script and with U.S. Embassy officials in Moscow taking part. It was planned, among other things, that Sakharov will announce another "hunger strike", while Bonner will receive "asylum" at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow where she would have meetings with foreign correspondents and sending abroad calumnious reports about the Soviet Union and falsehoods about the "position" of her husband. The operation was to serve as a signal for another outbreak of anti-Soviet ballyhoo in the West.

Only a few days ago U.S. officials maintained that they "did not know a thing" about that story. But now, THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, State Department officials admitted that Sakharov's wife had made available to U.S. Embassy staffers in Moscow letters with plans for the hunger-strike and a request that she be granted asylum in the embassy. THE NEW YORK TIMES notes that the admission came two weeks after TASS had sent out a report exposing the plan of the provocateurs.

Caught unawares, the organisers of the provocative operation have been compelled to remove a bit the shroud of secrecy surrounding the events of April 12. A U.S. Embassy staffer did really meet with Bonner in Moscow on that day. At first they "conversed" sitting on a bench, then in an automobile. He received the letters, including the one addressed to a high-ranking official of the Department of State, specifically, on the "granting of an asylum" at the embassy. Until now, THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, both the embassy and the State Department denied any American involvement in such a plan and did not admit that they had received the letters.

And now Washington is dodging, feeding the press another story to the effect that U.S. actions are motivated by some "humanitarian" considerations and nothing else. In actual fact the case in point is a fresh attempt at poisoning the international atmosphere, already fraught with a serious threat to peace.

WHITE HOUSE 'PRESSURE' SECURES MX VOTE

PM181200 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 84 First Edition p 5

[Nikolay Kurdyumov commentary under the rubric "Event: Observer's Viewpoint": "On the Altar of Militarism"]

[Text] The U.S. House of Representatives has voted on the question of financing the production of a new batch of MX ICBM's, which are a key element in the unprecedentedly large U.S. program to build up offensive strategic weapons so as to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. It is well known that the Washington administration's plans provide for the deployment of 100 MX missiles, each of which carries 10 nuclear warheads.

Last year the House approved with a nine-vote majority appropriations for the production of 21 missiles which, as is well known, are adapted to deliver a nuclear first strike. This year the administration asked for funds to finance the production of a further 40 MX missiles.

Ignoring the warning voices of reason which point out the exceptional danger in developing such a destabilizing weapon, the master of the White House and those around him made feverish efforts on the eve of the vote on Capitol Hill to influence the legislators, not hesitating to use false and hypocritical claims that the MX missiles are allegedly nothing but a "guarantee of peace" and an "incentive for the Soviet Union to return to the strategic arms negotiating table."

Seconding the President, Secretary of State G. Shultz declared that the MX program would supposedly help create "foundations for progress in the arms control sphere," although official Washington is well aware that the way things stand is exactly the opposite and that the U.S. intention to deploy MX missiles can only complicate to the extreme the entire process of arms control.

Deriding the absurd propaganda exercises by the administration, Democrat T. O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, noted on the eve of the vote that, according to the White House master whose "opposition to arms control" is well known, "speeding up the arms race means greater arms control."

During the debate a number of congressmen also voiced grave doubts about the expedience of appropriations for the further production of the "destabilizing" and "dangerous" MX system. Despite this, the tactics of pressure and the regular injections of demagoguery by the administration worked once again. The Democratic congressmen's amendment insisting on an end to financing the MX program was defeated by six votes. The adopted decision means that the House of Representatives has voted for the appropriation of almost $2 billion for the production of another 15 MX missiles.

The fact that the White House has managed to achieve only a partial satisfaction of its demands indicates a growing understanding of the danger in the present U.S. Administration's frenzied militarist preparations.

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES FUNDS FOR MIDEAST BASES

LD181027 Moscow TASS in English 0938 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Washington May 18 TASS -- The House Armed Services Committee of the U.S. Congress has approved allocations worth 32 million dollars for an expansion and modernisation of the military bases and facilities of the Pentagon in Oman and Morrocco, which, the AP news agency reports, are intended for use by U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force".

This decision was taken against the background of the sharply aggravated situation in the Persian Gulf region, proclaimed by Washington a "zone of U.S. vital interests".

REAGAN 'FLATTERING SELF-EVALUATION' ON PRC HIT

LD171346 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 13 May 84 p 6

[Vyacheslav Dukhin article: "Washington-Beijing: A New Peak"]

[Text] When flying home from China, President Reagan declared when already in the plane to journalists that he had achieved a new peak in relations with China. Such a flattering self-evaluation could only be expected from a President who wishes to be re-elected by simply "climbing peaks and setting records".

And rather original records were, indeed, established on this visit. Reagan and his party went out of their way to give the Beijing talks the maximum possible anti-Soviet nature, by playing on the myth of the "Soviet military threat" in Asia, dwelling on the deployment of medium-range missiles in the Asian part of the USSR, and so on. The President publicly made provocative statements against the USSR as if he were speaking to a NATO capital. He wanted most of all to emphasize the common approach of both Washington and Beijing to the "Soviet military might" and the need to "deter" it. While doing so, he, naturally, never said a word about the real threat to peace and stability in the Far East, presented by the huge and constantly increasing military capability accumulated by the USA in that region.

Reagan also did all he could to play the "Chinese card" in his militarist strategy of "confronting the USSR" in the Asian Pacific. According to a prominent US official, this strategy is aimed at forcing Moscow to face two fronts -- NATO in the West and a mighty community of states, including China, in the East. The aggravated tension and the increased danger of war in Europe, as a result of the Reagan administration's adventurism, give an idea of what future Washington has in store for the Far East.

Reagan demonstrated bluntly how little he believed in China's own independent foreign policy proclaimed in Beijing and strove to strengthen the anti-Soviet trends in the Chinese leadership's policy and particularly to put down the common stand of the USA and China in their support of the Afghan counter-revolution and the Khmer reactionaries and in relation to the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul bloc that is emerging. Commentators say that in this case the stake was made on possibly hindering the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations.

The US President said quite a few flattering words about China and the policy of its leadership. At the same time he was adamant in his stand on the Taiwan problem, in which the USA is frankly occupying a great-power, hegemonistic stance in respect to China. Reagan made it plain that he had no intention of sacrificing his relations with Taiwan or rejecting his policy of "two Chinas". The talks between Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Wu Xueqian, his Chinese counterpart, showed that the USA did not want to make any promises in regard to stopping arms deliveries to Taiwan. While in word the USA rejects interference in Chinese affairs, in deed it continues its interference, by politically supporting the Kuomintang regime and supplying it with arms, so as to preserve it as a lever of political pressure upon Beijing and as its own strategic bridgehead in the region. In spite of all that, Beijing has for many years agreed to offer Taiwan the status of some kind of "special political zone" or an anti-communist reservation within the framework of the PRC.

Reagan and his team think, apparently, that they managed to buy Beijing's patience in the Taiwan problem, even though the Chinese spokesmen continue to call this problem a "major obstacle" in Sino-US relations.

The Chinese side reacted in a different way to diplomatic moves made by the US visitors. In their public speeches the Beijing leaders tried to avoid giving open support to the adventurist, anti-Soviet course of the US Administration, and spoke of the two countries' different approaches to this or that international problem. Reagan's most odious statements were deleted from his speeches when they were published in the Chinese press. At the same time, when dwelling on the present-day international situation, the Chinese spokesmen stressed at the talks a certain similarity in the policy of the "two superpowers". Indeed, when the talks touched on military preparations as such, the Chinese preferences became clear. "China is not against the USA increasing its armaments. It has always supported these US measures," said Deng Xiaoping. Beijing expressed the same "mutual understanding" when the situation in Afghanistan and Kampuchea was discussed. A characteristic feature was that Reagan's visit coincided with the worsening of tensions on the Sino-Vietnamese border, for which Beijing is to blame.

On Sino-Soviet relations, the Chinese leaders once again confirmed their demand, unacceptable to the USSR, to remove the so-called three obstacles, thus making it plain to their US partners that complications in normalizing relations with the USSR would remain.

When assessing the US President's visit, in Washington and Beijing it was said that it was successful and led to strengthening friendship. As we know, an agreement was signed on abolishing double taxation of US concerns operating in China. Protocols on cooperation in managing science and technology in industry, on cooperation in scientific-technological information; on cultural cooperation were signed; and the agreement on cooperation in the use of nuclear energy was initialled. The US capital regards these and other agreements that are taking shape as a profitable starting position for pushing its own competitors out of the Chinese market.

Sales of US arms to China were also discussed. Shultz said that these talks were making rapid progress. Zhang Aiping, the Chinese minister of defence, is to visit the USA in June.

The impact of the Sino-US talks on politics in Asia and the Pacific region will become clear later on. However, we can say already now that Washington is carrying on its risky game based on aggravating international tension and on confrontation with the USSR and other socialist states.

SOVIET SINOLOGISTS SESSION TAKES PLACE IN MOSCOW

PM171317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 84 First Edition p 4

["Own Information" report: "Conference of Sinologists"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the Presidium of the Board of the All-Union Association of Sinologists has been held in Moscow and has discussed a number of questions of the association's work. The session, opened by O.V. Rakhmanin, first deputy chairman of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society Central Board, held an exchange of information on sinological activity in the USSR. Leaders of the association's republic and local branches took part in it.

KIM IL-SONG SEES KRASNOYARSK ON WAY TO MOSCOW

LD210652 Moscow TASS in English 0647 GMT 21 May 84

[Text] Krasnoyarsk May 21 TASS -- The party and state delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, led by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, KDPR President Kim Il-song has come here. During their stay in Krasnoyarsk the guests familiarised themselves with places of interest in the city.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS MARK USSR-DPRK TRADE UNIONS

SK191102 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 17 May 84

[Talk by Matskyavichyus, secretary of USSR All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions on the cooperation between the trade unions of the USSR and the DPRK -- recorded in Russian with superimposed translation]

[Text] Workers of the USSR and the DPRK are linked in traditional relations of friendship and cooperation. Their relations, based on principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, have been tested by time and benefit the peoples of both countries.

Trade unions play an important role in solidifying these comprehensive relations. There are various types of cooperation: exchanges of delegations, understanding each other's experiences, joint activities through world trade unions, participation in international conferences and meetings, and so on. As part of the exchange program, we have sent the Korean trade unions films, books, and photos for exhibition. Successful cooperation is realized between the border regions of our two countries, namely, between the trade union organizations of the Soviet Primorskiy Kray and North Hamgyong Province of People's Korea.

In October 1982 I visited the DPRK, leading the delegation of the USSR All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] for a good-will visit. Our itinerary was very well arranged. The warm meetings with workers of Wonsan motor plant and Taean heavy machinery plant and with workers of the (Kosong-ri) cooperative farm, who belong to the Korea-USSR Friendship Society, will long remain in our memory. We could see the wonderful achievements attained through efforts of the Korean people, who were advancing confidently along the road of socialist construction under the WPK's guidance. They were evident from the modern facilities, machine tools manufactured by machinery plants and from the cooperative farms that were kept in good shape, as well as from the broad streets of Pyongyang and the well-kept modern housing.

During our stay in People's Korea we had fruitful working level conferences with the leadership of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK]. We paid special attention to promoting and developing cooperation between workers and trade unions of the two countries as well as to the exchanges of experiences of the trade unions' work. According to our view, such contacts will help to further promote relations between trade unions of the USSR and Korea as well as solidify traditional fraternal friendship between the peoples of the USSR and Korea.

All visits to the DPRK by our country's trade union delegations and visits to the USSR by Korean trade union delegations contribute to this noble objective.

This year the GFTUK delegation headed by Comrade Kim Yong-nam, vice chairman of the GFUTK Central Committee, came to the USSR and participated in 5 days of commemorative events. The Korean guests participated in the international trade union meeting, whose theme was "The trade union that strives to benefit the workers' living and struggles to oppose the danger of a new war," met with the leadership of the USSR's AUCCTU and visited Kiev.

The [word indistinct] of the trade unions, which is growing in the various fields of political, economic, and cultural life in the USSR and the DPRK, opens a way to expanding further trade union relations. The USSR trade unions were adorned by the 26th CPSU Congress, shaped by the decisions of the subsequent party Central Committee plenums, and have helped in various ways to implement our country's economic and social development programs. We know that the GFTUK is also struggling vigorously to complete in a rewarding way the last year of the DPRK's second 7-year people's economic development plan. In short, the trade unions of our two countries have a firm base to develop and complete cooperation in all areas of life.

In the USSR we are fully aware of how much the Korean people hope to live together as one family and to realize national reunification. U.S. forces in South Korea are the main obstacles blocking the way to national reunification. USSR workers strongly condemn the ambition of U.S. imperialists who scheme to divide Korea permanently and their attempt to maintain their troops on the Korean peninsula continuously to make South Korea a bridgehead for their expansionist policy against Asia. Such a plan of U.S. strategists will not be realized and will fail. The firm determination of the Korean people to defend the fatherland and the support of the USSR and other countries of the socialist cooperative body and the progressive forces of all the world stand in the way of the U.S. imperialists.

The USSR trade unions will, in the future as well, firmly support the DPRK's constructive proposals to destroy the artificial national division to help ease tension in the Far East and in all the world and to maintain and solidify peace.

S. KOREA 'PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE' NOTES ANNIVERSARY

SK181330 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 17 May 84

[SELSKAYA ZHIZN commentary: "Memory of Kwangju"]

[Text] Today marks the 4th anniversary of the South Korean military's harsh suppression of the peaceful residents of Kwangju and other parts of the country who called for the abolition of martial law and for an end to (?police) terror. The bloody (?incident) organized on 17 May of 1983 by dictator Chon Tu-hwan after he took power must have threatened the people. However, this date has become a symbol of the struggle waged by broad masses against a spiteful puppet regime.

For this very reason, the protest movements by youths and students began an upsurge again during the few days before the 4th anniversary of the Kwangju tragedy. A strong demonstration whirlwind swept the country and those participating in the demonstrations marched, shouting the slogan: "[Word indistinct] and (?flunkeyist) regime, step down." A fierce battle erupted between the students and the policemen who fired tear gas canisters and used other weapons against the students.

Official publications in Seoul had to admit that commotions are sweeping most South Korean universities.

Embarrassed at the advance against the antipopular regime, the South Korean authorities are trying to create the impression of a free atmosphere.

Visits to South Korea by U.S. delegations of all positions, such as U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, following orders from Washington, which is doing everything possible to protect the bloody reputation of its ally, indicate that the puppets have fashioned new strategies.

Simply put, young activists were taken to the Army instead of being left behind bars, but some of them died there as a result of unhappy incidents, that is, torture and [word indistinct].

With a grand amnesty granted, thousands of criminals were released and none of the 51 who are forced to stay behind bars on charges of having protested againt terror and the suppressive maneuvers prevailing in the country has been set free.

Neither [word indistinct], terror, nor suppression can stop the people's struggle against the puppet regime, a struggle expanding with each passing day in the midst of support and solidarity from all the world's progressive forces.

Opposition Front Formed

LD181120 Moscow TASS in English 0956 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Tokyo May 18 TASS -- According to reports from Seoul, a group of prominent figures of the South Korean opposition has called for democratic rights and freedoms for the population of South Korea and demanded an end to the ban on the political activity of opposition forces. Speaking at a news conference in Seoul, two leading groups of opponents of the Chon Tu-hwan regime have announced that they formed a united opposition front to the Seoul dictatorship.

The news conference of opposition figures was timed for the fourth anniversary of the bloodshed in the South Korean city of Kwangju when the Seoul regime brutally quelled a mass popular uprising. At the present time popular protests against the puppet regime are intensifying in South Korea. 13 universities in the country are a site of student unrest -- campuses are actually controlled by students. Armored police vehicles are controlling entrances to university campuses, the police are firing tear-gas at the compounds.

SHEVARDNADZE HOLDS TALKS WITH INDIAN AMBASSADOR

PM181003 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 12 May 84 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "Talk at the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] On 11 May E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, received S. Nurul Hasan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the USSR, who is on a familiarization tour of our republic.

Warmly welcoming the guest, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze acquainted him with life in Soviet Georgia and with achievements of the republic's working people in the economy, science, culture, and education. He emphasized that the Soviet people highly value the traditional friendly relations which have grown up between our countries. A substantial contribution to their development was made by meetings between K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and by the recent visit to India of D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense.

At present, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze noted, our planet is going through the most dangerous period of its history since World War II. The reckless militarist policy of the present U.S. Administration, dictated by the interests of the military-industrial complex, has evoked mankind's justified alarm. The main task of all mankind's progressive forces today is to unite and to struggle jointly against the threat of a new war. In this situation, the Soviet Union attaches special importance to friendship and mutual understanding with such a great state as the Republic of India. A country with enormous economic potential and a leader of the Nonaligned Movement, India plays an important role in the struggle for world peace and progress and against imperialist expansion. Our countries' stances on many key current problems coincide completely. Soviet-Indian friendship is a reliable guarantee of success in the struggle for peace and progress.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze highly appraised the economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation between India and the Soviet Union. He noted that Georgian specialists and figures in science and culture are actively participating in it, and expressed confidence that this cooperation will continue to strengthen and expand. Our peoples today are laying the foundations of friendship and mutual understanding for future generations. My own impressions from a short stay in India, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze went on to say, memories of meetings with workers, peasants, parliamentary deputies, and politicians are unforgettable. The people of Georgia, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze said, regard the friendly Indian people with great warmth and cherish the memory of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's two visits to our republic.

S. Nurul Hasan expressed gratitude for the warm welcome and meaningful conversation. He noted that the Soviet Union has proven repeatedly that it is a true friend of the Indian people. Among the Soviet state's first manifestos signed by V.I. Lenin was the manifesto in support of national liberation movements and primarily the Indian people's struggle for sovereignty and independence. The ambassador spoke about the situation in his republic and about the problems currently being tackled by his people, particularly the exacerbated internation [mezhnatsionalnyy] relations in the State of Punjab brought about by subversive imperialist actions.

He also noted that the aggressive policy pursued by the United States, which is arming neighboring Pakistan and expanding its military presence in the Indian Ocean, is causing serious concern in India. India is successfully strengthening its economy despite the economic pressure applied by Western countries in an effort to hamper the republic's development. The great Soviet Union is providing India with much assistance in this matter. A vivid example of our countries' cooperation is the construction of the metallurgical giant in Bhilai, in which Georgians, too, participated. And the Soviet-Indian space flight provides new proof.

L.I. Mgaloblishvili, chief of a Georgian Communist Party Central Committee section; and T.N. Gordelade, republic deputy minister of foreign affairs, took part in the conservation.

U.S. ENGAGED IN 'CLANDESTINE WAR' AGAINST INDIA

LD111211 Moscow TASS in English 0727 GMT 11 May 84

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- "Washington is engaged in a clandestine war against India", Sergey Bulantsev points out in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. What is the cause of that war?" It has been caused by the fact that India, a great Asian power with its huge positive potential of peaceableness stands in the way of the global and regional hegemonistic ambitions of the United States." "It has long been an open secret," the commentary says, "that the U.S. secret services actively support separatists and splitters, who demand that some or other parts of territory be severed from India. Moreover, such anti-Indian operations as the "Brahmaputra Plan", "Gibraltar" and others were drawn up in the CIA offices. Criminals who fled from India's Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir States, found refuge in the USA and in some Western countries. They control from their apartments in Washington and London the actions of their accomplices in India."

"In the course of a year since India headed the Non-aligned Movement (which is a tremendous force, as more than one hundred countries participate in it) Washington has made attempts if not to subordinate Delhi's foreign policy to itself, then at least neutralize its positive influence on the international climate. The proposition is being perseveringly spread in the developing countries that India, and together with it the Non-aligned Movement, have allegedly "sidetracked from the position of neutrality."

"They in New Delhi are seriously concerned over another aspect of Washington's policy -- the attempts aimed at undermining the balance of forces which shaped in South Asia, the militarization of Pakistan," Sergey Bulantsev stresses. "Islamabad is already receiving the latest American weapons within the framework of a military-economic deal worth 3.2 billion dollars concluded with Washington. And whatever reassuring statements the Pakistani military dictatorship may make on that score, they in India remember well that it is precisely against India that Islamabad has alrady thrice used the weapons received from abroad."

ERSHAD AT 'END' OF PATIENCE WITH BANGLADESH FOES

PM171405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 84 First Edition p 5

[Unnamed own correspondent dispatch: "The Situation in Bangladesh"]

[Text] Madras, 16 May -- The political situation in Bangladesh remains complex.

As the press here reports, the talks which have continued for more than 1 month between the military authorities and representatives of the main opposition forces have not reached agreement. The opposition bloc of 15 political parties, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA agency reports, rejected the new program put forward by the military government for holding elections in the country and adopted a decision to organize demonstrations throughout the country in support of their five-point demands.

It will be recalled that on 12 May General Ershad, the head of the military regime, announced the cancellation of the parliamentary and presidential elections planned for 27 May and said that the date of new elections will be settled later. The opposition's demand for the rapid lifting of martial law was rejected. The opposition is demanding that elections be held first for the parliament, which would then resolve the question of holding presidential elections. Speaking on radio, Gen Ershad warned his opponents that his government had reached the end of its "patience and tolerance."

BUSH $14-MILLION CHECK FOR DRA 'GANGS' SCORED

LD181802 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev.

The United States vice-president's visit to camps of Afghan counter-revolutionaries on Pakistani territory has turned into a show of American mercenaries. It is by proxy of these cutthroats that the Reagan administration is continuing its base underclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. American television networks, covering George Bush's meetings with Afghan counter-revolutionaries, stress that the Reagan cabinet expands its financial and other aid to the CIA's Afghan mercenaries and bandits.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, Vice-President Bush came to the Pakistani-based camps "well-prepared" -- he brought along a check for 14 million dollars for gang leaders. Bush handed over this "gift" from the Reagan administration in addition to the 125 million dollars already spent on the upkeep and armament of Afghan mercenaries. The direct funding of Afghan counter-revolutionaries, instigating them for broadening the undeclared war against Afghanistan are being openly done by the present Washington administration. U.S. special services, engaged in subversive activity, are applying much effort to hamper the Afghan people's efforts to build a new life, strengthen their country's independence and sovereignty. Regular reports transmitted by BAKHTAR news agency about the crushing by Afghan Armed Forces of counter-revolutionary gangs in regions bordering on Pakistan show that Washington systematically sends inside Afghanistan armed groups of counter-revolutionaries, banking on the most inhuman methods of terror, subversion and plunder against Afghanistan's peaceful population. The U.S. underclared war against the Afghan people is an integral element in the overall policy of state terrorism to which the Reagan administration resorts throughout the world in order to attain its hegemonistic aims.

FIRST GROUP OF DRA'S PRISONERS AMNESTIED

PM171433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Released From Imprisonment"]

[Text] Kabul, 16 May -- According to BAKHTAR news agency reports, the first group of inmates have been released from Pol-e Charkhi prison as results of the amnesty proclaimed by decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium to mark the April Revolution's 6th anniversary. They had been sentenced earlier for subversive activity against the republic.

MARCHUK MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF PACT WITH VIETNAM

PM171455 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 84 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Anniversary Marked"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting to mark the 25th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and the SRV was held in Moscow 14 May. Its participants highly rated Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in science and technology, which has made a worthy contribution to strengthening the SRV's economic and scientific potential. The following were present at the meeting: G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology; Dinh Nho Liem, SRV ambassador to the USSR; and a Vietnamese delegation headed by Le Quy An, vice chairman of the SRV State Science and Technology Commission. On the same day a meeting took place between G.I. Marchuk and Le Quy An during which questions of further developing the two countries' scientific and technical cooperation were discussed.

PRK OBSERVES DAY OF MOURNING FOR GENOCIDE VICTIMS

Wreaths Laid; Complex Unveiled

LD191344 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Phnom Penh May 19 TASS -- On the eve of the day of memory for the victims of the genocide regime, observed May 20, solemn ceremonies of laying wreaths to the mass graves of the Kampucheans killed by Pol Pot's hangmen are held throughout the country. Kampuchea honors the memory of more than three million of its citizens who died during the reign of terror started in the country by the bloodthirsty Pol Pot clique. It is impossible to find a family in the People's Republic of Kampuchea which did not suffer loss during the reign of the traitors to the people. Concentration camps have been [as received] set up throughout the country. Urban dwellers were driven into the camps and killed there methodically and mercilessly. Schools, hospitals and Buddhist temples have been turned into prisons where the patriots expressing opposition to the Pol Pot regime were brutally tortured. The people rose in protest and toppled the hated clique. Over the five years that have passed since that historical event much was done in the field of national rehabilitation. Notable achievements were made in restoring the system of public education and health care. Major industrial faciiities have re-opened. Agricultural production is developing at a stable pace.

On the eve of the national day of memory for the victims of the genocide regime a memorial complex was unveiled in a solemn ceremony in the city of Preiveng. It is a tribute to the memory of the people who died in the concentration camps that existed in Preiveng Province during the rule of the Pol Pot's clique. The speakers at the unveiling ceremony reaffirmed the determination of the people to protect the gains of the revolution and to give a resolute rebuff to efforts made by the forces of imperialism and hegemonism to return their puppets back to power in the country.

Chea Sim Addresses Rally

LD201716 Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] Phnom Penh May 20 TASS -- On the day of tribute to the memory of the victims of genocide, thousands of inhabitants of Phnom Penh wearing white robes came to former Pol Pot jail Tuolsleng to lay wreaths to the tombs of the martyrs.

Tuolsleng, which once housed a lyceum, was used as the chief prison of the regime during the years of the rule of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. Thousands of patriots were brutally tortured in that prison. The Pol Pot butchers killed more than 20 thousand people in Tuolsleng. The memory of those who died in the Pol Pot jails will forever live on in our hearts, Chea Sim, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, president of the National Assembly, told a mass rally here. The butchers did their utmost to annihilate the Kampuchean people, to turn the Kampucheans into obedient slaves. The schools, hospitals and Buddhist pagodas were turned into concentration camps where people were exterminated on a planned basis. Three million Kampucheans fell victim of the bloody terror. Only the victory of the people's revolution could save the population from extermination.

Today the People's Republic of Kampuchea has done away with the grim consequences of the Pol Pot rule and is confidently advancing on the road of building a new life. The national economy is strengthening from year to year, culture is flourishing and the life of people is returning to normal.

The enemies of the Kampuchean revolution -- the American imperialists and the forces of international reaction are continuing their undeclared war against our republic, Chea Sim said. Assisted by the Pol Pot relics and other reactionary Khmer groupings, they hope to halt our country's progress and return the clique of butchers to power.

The Kampuchean people are firmly following the way onto which they have embarked. They have closely rallied round the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the government of the republic and are strengthening the relations of friendship and solidarity with the Soviet people, Vietnam and the other socialist countries, are repelling all intrigues of the enemies, carrying high aloft the banner of the fighters for peace, independence and freedom of the homeland, Chea Sim stressed.

NEW ZEALAND PARTY GROUP IN USSR AS CPSU GUESTS

LD201453 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A delegation of the Socialist Unity Party of New Zealand stayed in the Soviet Union on May 8-20 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation familiarised themselves with the organizational-and-party activities of the CPSU and the work of the soviets of people's deputies.

The delegation of the New Zealand Communists was received at the department of the organizational-and-party work of the CPSU Central Committee, had meetings and talks at the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania, at city and district party committees, at city and district soviets of people's deputies, visited industrial and agricultural enterprises. The delegation of the Socialist Unity Party took part in the celebration of the 39th anniversary of the victory over facism.

The New Zealand comrades expressed high appreciation of the work of the CPSU aimed at speeding up the economic and social progress of the Soviet Union, raising the living standards, the culture of work and living of the people. The delegation of the Socialist Unity Party enthusiastically supported the activities of the CPSU and the Soviet state in the international arena aimed at preserving peace and preventing a nuclear war.

PROPAGANDA AIMED AGAINST POLAND REPORTED

PM171647 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by unnamed "own correspondent" under the rubric "Backstage of Acts of Subversion": "Brandishing Erudition"]

[Text] Warsaw -- On the Rhine today there are philologists of a type disinclined to indulge in fine oratory. They talk forthrightly, with soldierly directness. For instance, take the philologists from the "union of exiles" who specialize in Polish material. They are terribly worried by the "linguistic disorder" introduced into West Germans' public consciousness by their "withdrawal (in 1945) from a substantial part of Germany." That is why the "exiles" have printed a leaflet for mass consumption which people in Poland have unhesitatingly termed "the revanchists' dictionary."

What do the philologists from the "union of exiles" have to offer? They give strictly binding recommendations: Here are the expressions which must not be used under any circumstances and here are those which are essential in usage. For instance, it is forbidden to make use of the concept of the "former eastern German territories" current in the FRG. That is ugly and jarring. And, most importantly, it is unpatriotic! It smacks of the irreparable, of lack of faith in the fatherland's future. The briefer "eastern lands of Germany" or, even more concise, "east German provinces" sound far better. As the authors deftly note, "the ancient land of the East Prussians, West Prussians, Pomeranians, and Silesians has never been and is not Poland."

Indeed, here we move to a different science also favored by "the perpetual yesterday's men" -- geography.

It was evidently not without consulting them that another atlas was published in Munich showing the territory "of Germany within its 1937 frontiers." Of course, with "the free city of Danzig "temporarily under Polish rule." It is not hard to guess that you will not find in the atlas the Polish names for cities in the western and northern lands.

Other, highly impatient "geographers" travel the roads of Poland, glancing here and there into peasants' plots and ordering: Make sure you tend your house and your apple trees properly so that everything will be in order when we return!

Those are some of the methods of the psychological warfare which the revanchists are waging against Poland with support from certain FRG official circles. Burning down -- first verbally, but then...Only they don't have the power!

POLISH ELECTIONS PROMPT MORE WESTERN SUBVERSION

PM181116 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Using Mafia Methods"]

[Text] Warsaw, 17 May -- Embittered by the failure of the conspiracy against Poland both through espionage agents and with the help of subversive radio stations. TRYBUNA LUDU notes that the CIA and other special services of the NATO countries have stepped up their espionage activity. The imperialist intelligence agents are interested primarily in Poland's defense potential and its economic ties. They support antistate elements and help all kinds of renegades to establish contacts with RFE and with subversive publications in the West, particularly the Paris journal KULTURA, which specialize in provocations against Poland.

The CIA's espionage operations are linked even more closely to RFE's broadcasts. According to the newspaper RZECZPOSPOLITA, this mouthpiece of the U.S. CIA has launched a new mass campaign in connection with the forthcoming June elections for people's councils in Poland. Each day the airwaves echo to the sound of coded instructions for underground groups and streams of lies and disinformation. Openly using Mafia methods and making no secret of their intentions, the radio saboteurs are stepping up the blackmail and psychological indoctrination of those who are likely to swallow the bait offered by the mercenary provocateurs. The domestic and foreign enemies of People's Poland are aware of the elections' political significance in the process of stabilizing life there. Thus their hostile propaganda is becoming increasingly furious and aggressive, the newspaper notes.

ROMANOV CONCLUDES VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Speaks at Compressor Plant

PM181042 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendship Rally"]

[Text] Prague, 15 May -- A Soviet-Czechoslovakian friendship rally was held at the CKD Compressor Plant in Prague today on the occasion of the presentation of the Soviet Order of People's Friendship to the plant.

This plant specializes in the production of turbocompressors of the Baykal and Yenisey type for the Soviet Union, powerful compressor stations for main gas pipelines, and other equipment. The enterprise produces 65 percent of its output for orders from the socialist countries in accordance with multilateral and bilateral agreements on specialization and production sharing among the CEMA countries.

Presenting the order to the enterprise's leaders, G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, conveyed to the plant's collective, the working class, and all fraternal Czechoslovakia's working people, wishes for further successes in building developed socialism from K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Communists and all Soviet people highly value the atmosphere of the genuine established between the CPSU and the CPCZ, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, and between the peoples of our two countries, the speaker said. Ties at the level of our governments, planning organs and ministries, enterprise collectives, and scientific, planning, and design organizations, are growing stronger and becoming increasingly firm.

Cooperation with the CKD Compressor enterprises is also developing successfully in the process of the general upsurge in and deepening of all-around relations between our two states. There are solid and long-standing traditions behind this cooperation. The third generation of equipment created by your collective is already operating in the Soviet Union. And it is operating reliably!

In close contact with Soviet specialists, the CKD Compressor Plant has now embarked on starting up production of still more efficient equipment that fully matches up to modern demands. Needless to say, this is only one example. But it confirms a general trend, namely our countries' persistent practical work to reach the foremost frontiers of scientific and technical progress.

As is well known, the 10th CPCZ Central Committee Plenum recently examined the state of and the prospects for the development of Czechoslovakia's machine building complex. In his plenum speech, Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, assigned responsible tasks to machine building workers, who have a key role in developing the national economy and in increasing the technical standards and competitiveness of output. We sincerely wish you, dear comrades, successful fulfillment of the set tasks, which will promote accelerated development of the Czechoslovak economy at the concluding stage of the 7th 5-Year Plan and the implementation of directives of the 16th CPCZ Congress.

Soviet people's workdays, G.V. Romanov went on to say, are suffused with full-blooded vitality. Fully supporting the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February and April (1984) Plenums and the propositions and conclusions of Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speeches, Communists and the Soviet people are focusing their efforts on the unconditional fulfillment of the responsible plan targets and adopted pledges.

Higher economic growth rates in the national economy have been achieved since the beginning of the current year than in the same period last year. Qualitative indicators are also improving. The party has appealed to all labor collectives to ensure a 1 percent above-plan labor productivity growth rate and an additional 0.5 percent reduction in output prime cost. Life has confirmed the feasibility of this task: On the whole it is being successfully fulfilled.

The CPSU's paramount attention is devoted to accelerating scientific and technical progress. A special CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministere resolution on this question was adopted last August. The Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress in the USSR for 1986-2005 is currently being worked out.

The CPSU assesses realistically and in their totality the problems of improving the developed socialist society. It has said and it continues to say that questions that arise can be solved more rapidly and effectively if every ministry, every enterprise, and every working person works creatively, with initiative, and makes full use of knowledge and experience.

We know that our Czechoslovak friends also share this approach and use this same yardstick to assess what has already been done and what remains to be done in the future. And there is no doubt that we will scale the planned heights!

Our countries' successes in implementing the tasks of economic and social development are largely determined by their increasingly close cooperation within the CEMA framework. We are jointly resolving the most important scientific and technical problems. But life does not stand still. And therefore the framework of joint work is expanding in such priority areas as machine building, nuclear power, electronics, robotics, and a number of others.

Our community now possesses a mighty economic and defense potential. Under conditions where imperialist, and primarily U.S. reaction has declared a "crusade" against socialism, it is our lofty duty and sacred obligation to strengthen and increase that potential.

The Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and the other Warsaw Pact states have recently put forward at the international conference in Stockholm and elsewhere important peace-loving initiatives aimed at reducing East-West tension. However, as long as the nuclear missile danger from the United States and the NATO states is present, we should keep our powder dry and be always alert in order not to allow the correlation of forces to be changed in favor of imperialism.

May is a special month and 9 May is a special date in the history of mankind and in the life of the Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples. We know what events they represent.

It would be appropriate to quote here today, among a worker audience, Comrade K.U. Chernenko's words at his recent meeting with workers of Moscow's Serp i Molot Metallurgical Plant: "There will be no repetition of June 1941. Swift retribution will overtake any aggressor. Everyone should be aware of this -- both our friends and our enemies."

In conclusion, G.V. Romanov said: For you and for us, comrades, the main guarantee and cornerstone of peace is our successful creative labor, the unity of actions of our Communist Parties, and the indestructible alliance and fraternity of the peoples of the Soviet Union, socialist Czechoslovakia, and the other fraternal socialist countries. We shall continue following this path in a single formation.

The rally was addressed by J. Linhart, secretary of the plant's CPCZ Committee, and V. Trejtnar, the enterprise director. On the collective's behalf they expressed heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government for their high evaluation of the labor of the plant's workers and engineers and gave an assurance that Czechoslovakia's working people will continue to tirelessly strengthen the friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and to develop production ties with enterprises and design bureaus in the USSR. The rally was a demonstration of the friendship and fraternity between the Czechoslovak and Soviet peoples.

Meets With Husak, Departs

LD181659 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The friendly visit of Comrade Romanov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Czechoslovakia has ended. He was in Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Comrade Romanov was received by Comrade Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. During their conversation they exchanged views on a number of questions of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation, particularly the sphere of machine-building. The necessity of further broadening exchanges of experiences in party leadership and in the economy, and the broadening of specialization and cooperation in industrial production were noted. The conversation took place in an atmosphere of a complete unity of views on all issues discussed.

Comrade Husak presented the Order of Victorious February to Comrade Romanov, which was awarded to him for merits in the building of communism in the USSR and for his contribution to the development of friendship and cooperation between the CPCZ and the CPSU, between the peoples of both countries, to the strengthening of the unity of states of the socialist community and in connection with his 60th birthday.

Today, Comrade Romanov and the officials accompanying him left for home.

Arrives in Moscow

LD182124 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 May 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Comrade Romanov returned to Moscow today. He was met at Vnukovo Airport by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by responsible CPSU Central Committee workers. Comrade Zavadil, Czechoslovak ambassador in the Soviet Union, was among the welcoming party.

REPORTAGE ON MAROTHY VISIT TO MOSCOW AKTIV

Grishin Speech

LD172146 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1630 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] As we have reported, at the invitation of the CPSU Moscow City Committee, a Budapest party delegation, headed by Laszlo Marothy, member of the MSZMP Politburo and first secretary of the Budapest Party Committee, is staying in Moscow. Yesterday, the Hungarian guests met the Moscow Party Aktiv. The meeting took place in the spirit of the friendship of the two peoples.

Viktor Grishin, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU and first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee, warmly greeted the members of the delegation, and, represented by them, the MSZMP, the Communists and workers of Hungary and its capital, Budapest. Then, Viktor Grishin turned to the history of Soviet-Hungarian relations. He emphasized that in this chronicle, numerous radiant chapters bear witness to the glorious, revolutionary traditions, and to the joint fight of our peoples waged for peace and socialism.

The memory will live forever of those Hungarian internationalists who took part in the struggle waged for the formation of Soviet power in Russia, of those revolutionary Hungarian workers who proclaimed the Republic of Councils in March of 1919, and the memory will live forever of the Soviet soldiers who liberated Hungary.

On the topic of the Soviet-Hungarian relations which are developing in a multi-lateral and dynamic manner, Viktor Grishin emphasized that a reliable basis of these relations is the militant alliance of the CPSU and the MSZMP and their identity of views in every important issue of the time. Soviet-Hungarian relations are the relations of companions-in-arms who fight together for the ideals of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

Viktor Grishin, the first secretary of the CPSU Moscow City Committee, valued highly the fruitful, friendly relations that had developed between the two capitals. The delegations of the parties and public life, and delegations of specialists regularly visit one another. The mutual study of experiences is in progress. Large political programs take place, such as, for example, the day of the capitals. All this greatly helps the education of the workers in the internationalist spirit, it contributes to the realization of our tasks set by our parties.

The present visit of the delegation of the Budapest Party Committee serves the further deepening of friendly relations, the development of fruitful, [word indistinct] cooperation between the two capitals' party organizations and workers, established Viktor Grishin.

The speaker then turned to the results achieved by the Soviet people in the realization of the decisions passed at the 26th CPSU Congress and at the Central Committee plenums, and in realization of the country's social and economic development plan.

On the topic of the international situation, the member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, the first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee, praised the great significance of the peace-loving foreign policy and constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in strengthening peace and security, and in curbing the arms race. The coordinated peace-loving foreign policy of the community of the fraternal socialist countries, our Marxist-Leninist parties, is the main force of social progress and the fundamental guarantee of the preservation and strengthening of peace, said Viktor Grishin.

Then, he continued, People's Hungary, as a firm member of the socialist community, contributes substantially to the strengthening of the organization of the Warsaw Pact. It plays an active role in the activity of CEMA, in the practical realization of socialist economic integration.

The people present warmly greeted Laszlo Marothy, member of the MSZMP Politburo, first secretary of the Budapest Party Committee. In his reply speech, Laszlo Marothy pointed out that one goal of his delegation's visit was to acquaint themselves with the work experiences of the city party organization, and to study the perfection of developed socialism in the most varied spheres. In the history of our friendship and in the history of the Hungarian people, the liberation of Hungary, whose 40th anniversary will be commemorated by us next year, was an extremely important milestone, said the first secretary of the Budapest Party Committee.

Via the Soviet Union's liberating mission, which exacted enormous sacrifices, we again regained our independence, and our people entered a new phase of its history. Over the past, nearly four decades our people have overcome their centuries-old backwardness and they have created their socialist country in which the creative forces of the workers are developing in every sphere of life. The fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union is the most important basis of our national sovereignty and social progress. Our relations, built on reciprocity, equality and internationalism, have become an organic part of socialist national consciousness for the Hungarian workers. The two countries' relations constantly and dynamically develop in every sphere of life, and this is determined by the collectivity of our principles and goals.

Then, Laszlo Marothy highly praised the outstanding results which the Soviet people have achieved with the leadership of the CPSU, in the realization of tasks connected with the perfection of developed socialist society.

On the international situation, Laszlo Marothy pointed out that the Hungarian workers resolutely oppose the placing in Western Europe of new American nuclear missiles; they support the endeavors of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community aimed at averting nuclear war and at strengthening peace and universal security.

Then, the first secretary of the Budapest Party Committee turned to the issue of Hungary's present economic development. He outlined the persevering efforts which the Hungarian workers, the inhabitants of Budapest make in the interest of realizing the tasks of the 12th Congress of the MSZMP, the 6th 5-Year Plan. Laszlo Marothy familiarized the participants at the meeting with the construction program of the Hungarian capital. In Budapest, 220,000 party members work on fulfilling the tasks of socialist construction, on realizing the policy of the MSZMP. Next year will be the year of the fulfilllment of the resolutions of the 12th MSZMP Congress; at the same time, it will be the year of preparation for the party's 13th Congress. The party and the people are unified regarding the goals and tasks of socialist construction, said Laszlo Marothy.

Dear listeners, we have reported on the meeting of the delegation of the MSZMP Budapest City Committee and the Moscow Party Aktiv, which took place yesterday in the Soviet capital.

Delegation Leaves for Home

LD182232 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Headed by Laszlo Marothy, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Budapest City Party Committee, a Budapest party delegation visited the Soviet capital at the invitation of the CPSU Moscow Gorkom.

The delegation left for home today. Prior to their departure the members of the party delegation visited the [word indistinct] car factory.

SOLOMENTSEV DELEGATION FINISHES GDR VISIT

Holds Final Talks, Departs

LD182251 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The final talks between the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation led by its chairman Comrade Solomentsev, and Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SED Central Committee Central Party Control Commission, took place in Berlin today. The Soviet delegation left for Moscow today.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by E. Mueckenberger and other officials, as well as the USSR ambassador to the GDR, V.I. Kochemasov.

Arrives in Moscow

LD182127 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 May 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The delegation of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, which paid a visit to the GDR at the invitation of the SED Central Committee, returned to Moscow from Berlin today. The delegation, headed by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, was met by Comrade Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and responsible CPSU Central Committee workers. Comrade Grabowski, charge d'affaires ad interim of the GDR in the Soviet Union, was among those in the welcoming party.

FRG'S GENSCHER VISITS MOSCOW, TALKS WITH GROMYKO

Genscher Arrives in Moscow

LD202027 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] On 20 May, Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs, arrived on a visit to Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Government. At the airport he was met by Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister; Kovalev, USSR deputy foreign minister; Semenov, USSR ambassador to the FRG; and other officials. Among those who met him was Kastl, FRG ambassador to the USSR.

Talks Begin

LD210737 Hamburg DPA in German 0713 GMT 21 May 84

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 May (DPA) -- Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and his Soviet counterpart Andrey Gromyko began a round of talks expected to continue for several hours in Moscow today. Both ministers, who last met earlier this year at the European Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Stockholm, greeted each other with smiles and a prolonged handshake.

According to German correspondents who observed the greeting in the Kremlin, Gromyko said to Genscher: "We now have 3 hours. We can discuss all the problems in the world and even advance into space." Genscher and Gromyko began by speaking English. Gromyko welcomed members of the Bonn delegation by saying to them in German "Guten Tag".

Despite the relaxed initial greeting, diplomatic circles expect a difficult round of negotiations against a backdrop of tense East-West relations and the latest Soviet press attacks on the Federal Government, which have been sharply criticized by Bonn. The meeting is to be followed by a luncheon with speeches by Genscher and Gromyko.

Genscher Speech

LD211000 Hamburg DPA in German 0913 GMT 21 May 84

[Text] Moscow, 21 May (DPA) -- Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher stressed in Moscow today the West's unchanged willingness for continued disarmament negotiations "at any time, anywhere and without preconditions." The problems of nuclear arms, including medium-range missiles, can be solved only through serious negotiations on arms control which aim toward success, the minister said at a luncheon with his USSR counterpart, Andrey Gromyko, in the Moscow Kremlin.

Genscher, who is in the Soviet capital for a 2-day working visit, said concerning NATO counterarmament: "Our reply to the unilateral (Soviet) stocking up of SS-20's, which for us constitutes an additional threat, is nothing other than looking after our own legitimate security interests." The West is seeking a stable balance of power at as low a level as possible.

Without directly referring to the latest sharp Soviet media attacks on the Federal Government, Genscher emphasized: "No responsible force in our country entertains revanchist ideas.

Our people have learned their lessons from history. They deem any doubts regarding their peaceful intentions unjustified and unmerited." Earlier Genscher said that the "language of confrontation" should not be allowed to become colloquial between countries and peoples.

Concerning bilateral German-Soviet relations, the Federal foreign minister said that they have proved to be an "important pillar of stability and cooperation in Europe." Bonn adheres uncompromisingly to the treaties concluded by the Federal Republic with the Soviet Union and other socialist states which "neither in rhetoric nor spirit are called into question." He added: "We know about the yearning for peace of the peoples in the Soviet Union. We, too, desire peace most earnestly, we seek to actively shape peaceful coexistence with the Russian people, with all the peoples of the Soviet Union..."

FRG'S 'MILITARIST' TENDENCY POINTED OUT

PM181510 Moscow KRAZNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 84 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Major V. Nikanorov: "An Indulgence for Militarists: NATO Is Encouraging the Buildup of the FRG's Military Might"]

[Excerpts] Twice in our century the bellicose policy of German imperialism has led to the outbreak of world war. Twice world war originated on German soil. German imperialism is directly responsible for the deaths of millions of people, and it is to blame for the incalculable material damage incurred by the peoples of Europe. For this reason, at the end of World War II -- the bloodiest war in the history of mankind -- the decisions of the Potsdam Conference providing for the demilitarization of Germany were received with profound satisfaction throughout the world.

As a result of the Western powers' policy -- which is completely at variance with the decisions of the Potsdam Conference -- and the forced process of West Germany's militarization, the Bundeswehr has become the mightiest army equipped with conventional weapons in West Europe. In terms of its numerical strength and equipment with combat hardware and arms, it surpasses all other European NATO member-states' armies today. The Bundeswehr is armed with modern Leopard-2 tanks, multipurpose, nuclear-capable Tornado aircraft, and powerful "Bremen" class F-122 frigates.

But even that is not enough for the West German militarists. Speaking in Bonn recently, W. Altenburg, inspector-general (commander in chief) of the Bundeswehr, again called for "strengthening NATO's non-nuclear defense capability." According to Altenburg, the FRG Ministry of Defense intends to set "basic guidelines for the planned development of the Bundeswehr through the late-nineties" by mid-June.

It is not difficult to imagine which direction this development will take. The SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG reported recently that the Bundeswehr intends to spend DM1.1 billion on its missile rearmament. As of 1987, the Pershing IA missiles with which the Bundeswehr is equipped will be replaced by the more modern Pershing IBs, which are a variant of the Pershing II missile. According to the newspaper, the FRG now has at its disposal 72 launch facilities for Pershing IA missiles and about 100 such missiles. All can be fitted with nuclear warheads which are under U.S. control.

For the time being, Bonn has not managed to gain control of the nuclear missiles push-buttons. However, the policy of connivance pursued by the Western powers inevitably leads to the FRG militarist circles' growing ambitions to acquire or gain control over nuclear weapons in one form or another.

The intensified militarization of the FRG will be further promoted by the meeting of foreign ministers of the Western European Union [WEU] countries which is planned for the near future. According to reports emanating from NATO circles, the question of removing the last restrictions on the production of offensive weapons in the FRG is to be discussed at this meeting at France's suggestion. The upcoming WEU session coincides with a new round of the arms race in Europe initiated by the deployment on the continent of U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles. A large proportion of these missiles are to be sited on West German territory. The threat of war in Europe is emanating from German soil again. The nature of German imperialism has not changed, and its love of peace has not increased. Plans for removing the last remaining restrictions on the production of offensive arms in West Germany are a brazen challenge to the world public, which is preparing to mark the 40th anniversary of victory over German fascism next year.

Preparing to issue West Germany with a carte blanche to rearm, the Western powers, primarily the United States, hope to shift onto the FRG a considerable proportion of NATO's military expenditure. The United States would like to turn the FRG into its "gendarme" in the western part of the continent. And on this, judging by everthing, Bonn's and Washington's wishes coincide. The present ruling coalition in the FRG is willing to serve the transatlantic circles. Not for nothing did the West German magazine DER STERN reply to the question "What is the difference between Reagan and Kohl?" with more than a hint of malice: "In principle there is none, except perhaps that Reagan speaks English."

In connection with the envisaged removal of restrictions, Bonn in turn clearly intends to considerably increase its role in NATO, the WEU, and the Common Market. West Germany's imperialist circles count on active support for their militarist and revanchist aspirations from states which belong to these organizations. But it would not be out of place here to remind people that the revanchist designs of West German imperialism, which are now so zealously being provided with military foundations, could be directed not against the East alone. They represent a serious danger to the FRG's western neighbors, too. You cannot help recalling here the improvident monk who sold an indulgence to a brigand...

KORNILOV WRITES ON FRG REVANCHISM, MILITARISM

LD191541 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Moscow, May 19 TASS -- It is precisely in the past few years after the Reagan administration had proclaimed a "crusade" against socialism and had adopted a line at establishing its military and political hegemony in Western Europe, and after the right-wing conservative CDU/CSU bloc, following in the wake of the aggressive U.S. foreign policy, had come to power in West Germany, revanchists decided that "their time" has come, Yuriy Kornilov writes in the newspaper SELSKAYA ZHIZN today.

What is the "base" of the revanchists and neo-Nazis in West Germany today? It is, above all, a network of active revanchists' "unions" and "associations of fellow countrymen." The main one of them is the so-called "Union of Expellees" with a membership of 2.5 million people. It includes 22 "associations" and 11 "Land groups," 450 regional and 9,000 district organisations. The "expellees" have at their disposal a powerful propaganda machine. They own 360 newspapers with a total circulation of more than 1.5 million copies.

More than 40 members of revanchist centers, the author writes, are deputies to the West German Bundestag. G. Windelen, chairman of the "Parliamentary Council" of the "Union of Expelless" is a member of the government of the country, the minister for intra-German [inner-German] relations. O. Hoennig, secretary of state at the same ministry, is an activist of the "Association of East Prussian Fellow Countrymen." This year alone the revanchist "Associations of Fellow Countrymen" will receive 40 million marks from the federal budget of the FRG.

The revanchist frenzy that has affected certain circles in West German, Yuriy Kornilov writes, clearly comes in line with the interests of West Germany's "senior partner" in NATO which regards Western Europe as a possible "theater of operations" and a place d'armes for preparing the so-called "disarming" nuclear missile attack on socialist countries. "Threats against those countries demands that the decisions of the Yalta and Potsdam Conference be reconsidered, the course toward the revision of the post war realities and the state frontiers established in Europe provide a basis for the convergence of interests of the right-wing conservative forces of the FRG and those of Washington militarists seized with unrestrained imperial ambitions.

However, the scaled-up activity of right-wing extremist and revanchist forces, Yuriy Kornilov underlines, is a threat not only to the people of the FRG but to the neighbors of West Germany as well. It's a challenge to peaceful and democratic circles of Europe, for it is more than clear now **that Washington regards revanchit** in the anti-communist "crusade" proclaimed by the "Reagan team."

"Taking a stake on the revision of the outcome of the Second World War and 'rolling back' communism, the advocates of a 'revanche,' and all kinds of fascist diehards encouraged by Bonn and instigated from across the ocean, are working up tensions, sowing enmity among peoples and trying to destablise the situation in Europe even further. The unanimous demand of the European and international public is to prevent the past from recurring and to issue a timely and resolute rebuff to revanchists and neo-Nazi elements of all hues."

'REVANCHIST, NEO-NAZI FORCES' INCREASING IN FRG

LD192132 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 19 May 84

[From the Vremya newscast; presented by Anna Shatilova and Igor Kirilov]

[Text] The activities of revanchist and neofascist forces in the FRG are being stepped up with the support and open connivance of the ruling circles.

[Begin V. Kondratyev recording] For more than a year now, a coalition with a tone set by the CDU/CSU, has been in power in Bonn. For a long time following the founding of the FRG, it was these parties that defended the foreign political course of demands to review the territorial and political realities that came about as a result of World War II.

Today, despite the fact that the previous government recognized the existing borders in its treaties with the socialist countries, dangerous revanchist ambitions are being revived with new force. Zimmermann, minister of the interior, states bluntly that the German question remains open.

There has recently been a perceptible increase in the activity of various landsmannschaften and other revanchist organizations of which the FRG political scene has many.

The so-called "League of Expelled Germans" -- the main revanchist organization numbering 2.5 million members -- has been allocated tens of millions of Deutschmarks from the Federal budget and Land budgets this year alone. In the Bundestag, the league is represented by 40 deputies, the revanchist leaders are received by the chancellor himself, and they are honored with the highest FRG awards. The swing to the right in the country's political life has, as it were, inspired fresh strength in Nazis old and new.

West German publishing houses are issuing millions of copies of nostalgic recollections of the ringleaders of the Nazi Reich and other literature aimed at whitewashing Hitlerite crimes. The profascist group called the "German Soldiers League," for instance, is offering DM10,000 to anyone who can prove irrefutably even one single case of so-called murder by gassing in the so-called gas chambers and the so-called Nazi concentration camps. A mockery of the memory of the millions of victims of fascism is how the country's democratic public opinion views the various rallies of former SS man, which the authorities not only do not ban but actually defend from strong protest demonstrations.

The activation of the revanchist and neo-Nazi forces is closely linked with the country's further militarization. It is these eternal men of yesteday, as they are called, who are the most zealous proponents of the stationing of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in the FRG. In turn, Washington views revanchism as an auxiliary detachment in the anticommunist crusade and as a tool in the fight against the antiwar movement. The lessons of history are evidently not benefitting those people who do not wish to break with their fascist past.

WEINBERGER HOLDS LISBON TALKS ON U.S. BASES

LD191403 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Pentagon chief Weinberger is visiting Lisbon. He is holding discussions with Portuguese Defense Minister Mota Pinto, specifically on the continuation of the Pentagon renting the Lajes strategic base. Also on the agenda of the talks with representatives of the Portuguese Government are questions of the modernization of Portugal's Armed Forces. An agreement on the extension of the military base's lease for a period of 7 years was signed at the end of last year in exchange for a major financial handout from Washington.

The Portuguese democratic public is watching with alarm as the country is being drawn into Washington's militaristic policy. One of the leaders of the general confederation of Portuguese workers, the National Intersindical, Rana, stressed that this policy of the present authorities is contrary to the interests of the Portuguese people.

PORTUGUESE DELEGATION VISITS SUPREME SOVIET

Arrives in Moscow

LD181817 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] At the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a delegation of the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic, headed by Tito de Morais, chairman of the Assembly, has arrived in Moscow on an official visit. The guests have paid a visit to the USSR Supreme Soviet. They were welcomed by Comrades Tolkunov and Voss, chairmen of the Soviet of the Union and of the Soviet of Nationalities.

It was noted that the development of parliamentary ties is in the interests of the peoples of both countries, and serves the cause of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

Shevardnadze Receives Group

LD191939 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1310 GMT 19 May 84

[From the Novosti newscast]

[Text] Tbilisi: The Portuguese Assembly delegation, headed by Chairman Tito de Marais, was received today by Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Georgian CP.

Having wished the members of the delegation success in the noble cause of further strengthening the relations between Portugal and the Soviet Union, he noted that the Soviet people foster great sympathy for the Portuguese people.

The guests expressed the confidence that the relations between the USSR and their country would develop and strengthen in the future, contributing to peace on earth and to the improvement of the international situation.

GREEK AMBASSADOR METAXAS LEAVES MOSCOW

PM171406 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ambassador's Departure"]

[Text] Andreas Metaxas, Greek ambassador to the USSR, left Moscow 16 May.

GOVERNMENT GREETS DUTCH, SWEDISH MONARCHS

PM151521 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 May Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Congratulations on Holiday"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Queen Beatrice of the Netherlands conveying sincere congratulations to her on the country's national holiday and also good wishes for the peaceful future and prosperity of the Netherlands people.

In an answering telegram, the queen of the Netherlands expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and conveyed very best wishes for the Soviet people's prosperity.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden conveying sincere congratulations to him on the country's national holiday and also wishes for the Swedish people's peace and prosperity.

In an answering telegram the Swedish king expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

SUPREME SOVIET SENDS GREETINGS TO DANISH QUEEN

PM151457 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 84 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Congratulations on a Holiday"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent Queen Margrethe II of Denmark a telegram on the occasion of the country's National Day, conveying to her sincere congratulations and wishes for happiness and to the Danish people wishes for well-being and prosperity.

In a reply telegram, the Queen of Denmark expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and best wishes.

U.S. CHARGED WITH INTERFERING IN GULF REGION

Demchenko: U.S. Complicates Issue

PM211000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 84 First Edition p 5

[Article by Pavel Demchenko under the rubric "Event: Observer's Viewpoint": "Clouds Over the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] "Ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet patrolling the waters of the Persian Gulf have been placed in a state of heightened combat readiness," many foreign news agencies reported today in special bulletins. Covers have been removed from the guns on two British warships in the area, BBC television reported.

In short, there was a feeling that the two NATO powers' navies were prepared to throw themselves into a serious military adventure. And it is evident from official statements by Washington spokesmen that they intend to do this on the pretext of "protecting freedom of navigation" through the Strait of Hormuz, which links the Persian Gulf to the Indian Ocean. These statements bring to mind the events concerning Nicaragua where Washington, again having violated the generally recognized norms of international law on protecting freedom of navigation on trade routes, laid mines near ports, mines which have blown up many commercial ships.

The contrary situation appears to exist in the Persian Gulf. And the explanation for that is simple: For a long time the Pentagon has been pondering the idea of active armed interference in the region, the site of very rich sources of oil which the United States has arbitrarily declared a zone of its "vital interests." They plan to use the protracted war between Iran and Iraq, in particular this week's attacks on tankers, as the excuse for overt interference, as has occurred more than once in recent years.

Yet another curious report has appeared in the press: U.S. diplomacy is very keen that one of the Arab countries in the region should now ask for military aid. This would make the way absolutely clear for intervention and at last enable U.S. Armed Forces to acquire bases on the territory of that country and the right to land aircraft and dock ships at its ports. But, as London's THE TIMES writes, "The Persian Gulf states are obstinately reluctant to enlist U.S. military support." This position is perfectly understandable: Following the failure of Washington's adventure in Lebanon there was a surge of anti-American feeling in the Arab countries and no Arab government can disregard this.

Clearly, U.S. interference, in whatever guise, will only complicate the situation in this explosive part of the world and hinder an already difficult quest for a settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict. The facts show that Washington is motivated by selfish imperial interests and not at all by concern for the freedom of international shipping.

U.S. Attempting 'Intervention'

LD191159 Moscow TASS in English 1137 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] New York May 19 TASS -- Under a far-fetched pretext of ensuring the freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, the United States is trying to organize another intervention in the region.

The NBC television network has reported that the administration is now considering different versions for the use of military force in the Persian Gulf. One of such versions is Washington's intention to send several squadrons of U.S. interceptor planes to the region. NBC draws attention to the fact that in view of that the administration stubbornly seeks consent from the countries of the region to grant a right to the USA to base aircraft in their territories. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the USA demands consent from Arab leaders to planning military operations with the participation of U.S. aircraft as well as to giving the Pentagon an access to runways, storages and other military facilities in the Gulf area.

The administration's spokesman who declined to give his name has admitted that the U.S. Department of Defence is particularly interested in getting bases in the territory of Saudi Arabia.

Another idea of the Pentagon is to form a certain "international naval force" there. In actual fact this means the creation of a striking naval fist of international imperialism to permanently operate in the region under U.S. aegis. According to an NBC report, the force will number up to twenty warships. The television network adds that the USA hopes that, apart from U.S. ships, the force will also include British and French warships.

Yet another version being considered by the administration is to increase the strength of a U.S. AWACS radar planes group which is already based in the region. This time the Pentagon would like to provide AWACS planes with an escort of "F-15" fighters.

The Reagan administration openly tries to assume a "right" to global "vital interests". John Hughes, a spokesman of the Department of State, has said at a press conference in Washington that the Persian Gulf area is to the USA a zone of vital interests and that the President has clearly indicated that the USA is prepared to defend these interests.

Acting from the positions of overt expansionism, the USA has already more than once unleashed conflicts in various parts of the globe. An attempt which is now being made by the USA in the explosive area of the Middle East is fraught with the most serious consequences for the entire region.

Plans for U.S. military interference have particularly intensified of late when unidentified aircraft attacked Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers in the Gulf. The CBS television network reports that President Reagan has held a meeting in the White House with his leading advisers in the field of national security. The situation in the Persian Gulf was discussed.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has met with the ambassador of Saudi Arabia in Washington. Having stated that the USA will be prepared to help, he insisted that Arab states grant the U.S. Armed Forces a right to land aircraft and to use port facilities.

The U.S. press writes that the ministers of foreign affairs of the Gulf Cooperation Council member states gathered at an emergency meeting in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) at which they adopted a decision to apply to the U.N. Security Council in a request to consider the situation in the Persian Gulf as well as to put this item on the agenda of the forthcoming Arab foreign ministers' conference in Tunis.

London May 19 TASS -- THE TIMES points out that the development of events in the Persian Gulf is fraught with the seeds of a new foreign-policy crisis for the U.S. Administration because, according to the newspaper, the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf are unwilling to enlist support on the part of the USA.

Washington's militarist preparations are a fresh evidence that the incumbent U.S. Administration seeks to assume the functions of an international gendarme so that, trampling the interests of peoples of the region and norms of international law, it could unceremoniously interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and dictate its will to them. The public of Arab countries view the U.S. new preparations as a further action which is being prepared against the countries of the region, including that against Iran and Iraq.

Pretexts for U.S. Action

LD202326 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 20 May 84

[From "International Panorama" program presented by PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] [Ovchinnikov] The situation in the Persian Gulf basin has grown acute in recent days. There have been more frequent instances of tankers being bombed by unknown aircraft. The dangerous results of the senseless war between Iran and Iraq are making themselves felt. What may be even more dangerous are the consequences of these results. Washington is hastening to make use of the alarming reports of the fate of a Saudi and a Kuwaiti tanker as an excuse for yet another military intervention. So seven U.S. destroyers cruising in the Persian Gulf have already taken the covers off their weapons, and the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, with its attendant vessels, is already steaming to their help from the Indian Ocean. Following an urgently convened meeting of the National Security Council, assertions have been heard from the White House that the United States is, as they are saying, prepared to use force to protect the freedom of shipping in the Persian Gulf. All that is needed is for Arab states to allow U.S. aircraft to use their airfields and U.S. ships to dock at their ports, and they should publicly request Washington's help.

The scenario is far from being an original one. In order to make a correct assessment of events, it is important to see them as they really are. The turn from detente to confrontation by U.S. ruling circles has not only an anti-Soviet thrust. It is, as one may say, not an arrow but rather a trident, because the line toward social revenge directed first and foremost against the USSR also embodies a bid to assert the U.S. role as leader over and above other capitalist states and to subject the developing countries to U.S. diktat. In this, Washington is banking in particular on the raw-materials problem. Its reasoning is as follows: Use the exacerbation of international tension and the pretext of the Soviet threat -- or on any other pretext, like the seizure of hostages in Tehran or, as in the current instance, the Iran-Iraq war -- to take some of the most important sources of raw materials resources under U.S. military control. Thereby, on the one hand, Western Europe and Japan would be put into a situation of dependence, and on the other hand, the U.S. role as gendarme in relation to young states in Asia, Africa, and Latin America would be increased.

A new refrain has recently begun to be heard in Washington's official propaganda. The United States has, it is said, turned into an island state that is becoming ever more dependent on imported resources. This is supposedly yet another reason for its vital interests to have taken on a global nature. Foreseeing a heightening of the war for resources, U.S. imperialism sees the seizure of key positions in this war as a springboard to world domination. Although the Common Market countries and Japan are far ahead of the United States in terms of volume of output, their dependence on imported raw materials has grown even more. Washington takes account in its strategy of this weak point of its competitors. There was a time when the United States was a major oil exporter but lately it has been preferring to conserve its own reserves and increase its purchases from abroad. The United States now imports almost as much oil as Japan, though it gets only 10-15 percent of its liquid fuel needs from the Middle East while the figure for the Common Market countries and Japan is almost 70 percent.

If Middle East oil plays a far-from-key role in the energy balance-sheet, why has the whole trouble been sparked off? Why does the United States need to declare the Persian Gulf basin a zone of its vital interests, post aircraft carrier strike groups at its approaches, and set up a string of support points in the vicinity for the Rapid Deployment Forces? It would be naive to suppose that the White House is merely acting out of concern for the welfare of its allies. Washington is calculating that by keeping two-thirds of oil exports in the capitalist world under U.S. military control, the United States will be in a position to exert pressure on its West European and Japanese competitors and hold the developing countries of the region in a neocolonialist yoke.

[Unidentified speaker] The Persian Gulf: a real storehouse of oil. It used to be symbolized by an oil flare and a tanker, but now it is by aircraft and ships of the U.S. Navy. They patrol the approaches to the Persian Gulf. For a number of years now, the situation in the region has been among the most alarming. U.S. policies are the chief reason for the tension in the Persian Gulf area. In the words of U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, Washington views this area as one of the most important from the defense viewpoint: First comes the territory of the United States itself, second is the territory of the NATO states in Western Europe, and third is the Persian Gulf area. There are several explanations for this, but the first one among them is oil.

The Persian Gulf basin is the greatest oil-bearing area in the world. Arab and Iranian oil account for up to 70 percent of West European and Japanese oil consumption, and it is difficult to exaggerate its importance for the economies of these countries. At the same time, for the leading capitalist countries, the Persian Gulf area is a major market for, among other things, enormous consignments of weapons. The Persian Gulf countries' per capita military spending is the highest in the world. Last but not least, the Persian Gulf zone lies in direct proximity to the southern frontiers of the Soviet Union. It is because of all this that the Persian Gulf occupies such an important place in the strategy of Washington and its allies.

In January 1980, U.S. President Carter declared the Persian Gulf zone a zone of U.S. vitally important interests. This step was justified by the military threat that had allegedly arisen from the Soviet Union for the countries of the Persian Gulf and thereby for the West as a whole. At the same time, the West switched its main attention to the political future of the countries of the region, preparing to use political changes that did not suit the West as an excuse for direct armed interference.

The so-called Rapid Deployment Force was created at top speed. A headquarters for future intervention in the region was also formed, in the shape of Centcom. All manner of military maneuvers in the Gulf itself and in its immediate proximity began to be held more frequently. Aircraft carrier and other kinds of formations of the Navies of the United States, Britian, and France went on permanent watch in the Gulf and its approaches. In a word, Washington and its allies are now prepared not only for a show of military force but to apply it. All that was needed was the pretext.

The myth of the Soviet military threat is one of the possible pretexts for armed seizure of the Gulf oilfields. Even those who created the myth have been obliged to admit that few people believe it. That is why the intense search for fresh military bases in countries of the region and bordering it has not met with broad support. Only Oman, Kenya, Somalia, and Pakistan have been talked into it. Even Saudi Arabia, perhaps the most faithful, has not risked offering its territory for U.S. bases.

The only country that can really gain from the blockading of the Strait of Hormuz is the United States. The cutting-off of oil supplies would leave its economy unaffected. The weakening of all countries of the region without exception would be doubly useful for it, since economic dependence would be bound to be followed by political dependence. That is what is being banked on.

The Strait of Hormuz: the entrance to the Persian Gulf. Through it pass all tankers delivering oil from the Arab countries and from Iran. A vessel carrying oil passes every 15 minutes through this strait, which is 230-km long and up to 70-km wide. It is precisely here, at this narrow sea passage, where the oil could most easily be turned off, precisely here where a match tossed down could ignite a conflagration in the whole region.

[Ovchinnikov] So the throat of the Strait of Hormuz is the place where the oil tap could most easily of all be turned off. This is what makes the Persian Gulf basin attractive for Washington. American imperialists are drawn to it by that very aim they try to attribute to the Soviet Union when they make assertions about some imagined Soviet expansion toward warm water seas. In reality, is is they, militant circles in the United States, who would like to place a stranglehold on the main artery supplying oil to the economies of Western Europe and Japan in order to dictate their will to these countries.

SYRIA'S TALAS ON PLANS FOR SOVIET MILITARY AID

NC190848 Paris AFP in English 0839 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Madrid, May 19 (AFP) -- Plans have been drawn up to enable two Soviet divisions to be transported to Damascus within eight hours in the event of any fresh conflict between Syria and Israel, Syrian Defence Minister General Mustafa Talas has said.

In an interview published in the daily EL PAIS newspaper here, General Talas emphasised, however, that Syria had no need of Soviet troop aid.

He said the Soviets would come to Syria's aid should the United States align itself with Israel in any fresh war. He said the late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov promised Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad that he would not allow any country to attack Syria.

Mr Andropov also sought Kremlin assurances that Soviet arms could be rushed to Syria "in time," despite reservations by Defence Minister Dmitriy Ustinov and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko over stepped up arms supplies to Syria, General Talas said.

Syria's defence aim was to have strategic balance with Israel. "You need a big stick in your hand to discusss anything with Israel," he said.

He also said Syria had new Soviet SAM-5 ground-air missiles which made Syria's skies free from Israeli aircraft penetration. He said a West German military attache in Damascus had been expelled for trying to photograph the SAM-5 sites.

But he denied Western press reports that only Soviet technicians were allowed at the sites. All arms in Syria are under my orders, he told the paper.

LEBANESE-SYRIAN PARTY TALKS IN DAMASCUS VIEWED

PM180909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 84 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Common Opinion"]

[Text] Damascus, 17 May -- Talks have taken place here between A. al-Ahmar, deputy general secretary of the Ba'th Party, and G. Hawi, general secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee.

As SANA reports, the talks examined the situation in Lebanon and the Near East. The sides expressed a united opinion on the need to continue efforts to achieve national consensus in Lebanon on the basis of the Lausanne conference decisions.

Syria, A. al-Ahmar stated at the meeting, will give the fraternal Lebanese people every possible assistance to strengthen and defend its independence, sovereignty, and territorial and national unity, and to gain liberation from the Israeli occupation. G. Hawi assessed highly Syria's role in the cause of thwarting imperialist plans in the region and bringing about the failure of the American-Israeli plot in Lebanon. He supported the stance of Syria, which offers resistance to the Israeli military's aggressive threats.

TRIPOLI MEETING ADOPTS DECLARATION ON MIDEAST

LD181738 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] May 18 TASS -- The Standing Secretariat of the Pan-Arab People's Congress and the International Secretariat of Solidarity With Arab Peoples have concluded a joint meeting in the Libyan capital, which was attended by over 20 progressive organizations of Arab and other states.

The meeting adopted a political declaration condemning the bloody crimes of imperialism and Zionism against Arab nations, first of all the Palestinian people. It said that it was impossible to settle the Middle East conflict without implementing the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to set up an independent state of their own. Expressing support to the struggle by the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people, the participants in the meeting urged stronger PLO unity on an anti-imperialist basis.

The declaration spoke highly of the support given to Arab nations by all progressive freedom-loving forces in the world, above all by socialist countries with the Soviet Union at the head.

ISRAELI ACTIONS IN 'AYN-HULWAH ASSAILED

LD182024 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 18 May 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The group of Arab states at the UN has unanimously adopted a decision to ask for the immediate convocation of the UN Security Council for the discussion of new criminal actions by the Israeli military, committed in the occupied south of Lebanon. Over to Farid Seyful-Mulyukov, political observer of Soviet television and radio.

[Begin Seyful-Mulyukov recording] Hello, comrades! The poetic name of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, sheltered in the outskirts of the town of Sa'id in southern Lebanon, now sounds just as disquieting as Sabra and Shatila did in their time. The tragedy of these two Palestinian camps, where hirelings of the Zionists killed defenseless people with knives and submachine guns, has been the subject of films and books. This bloody crime is typical genocide. It has become normal practice of the Israeli occupants on the territory of war torn Lebanon. The world already knows the details of the latest carnage committed by Israeli butchers in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp. But now they no longer hide behind the hireling-murderers, but themselves laid explosives in the houses where women and children were hiding, themselves directed fire into the overcrowded camp from tanks and guns.

This barbaric operation, which was led personally by Arens, the Israeli defense minister, is but one -- the latest -- example of mass terror of the occupationists in the south of Lebanon. Recently I had occasion to see for myself the arbitrary rule of the Zionists in southern Lebanese towns and settlements -- killings, robberies, mass roundups are carried out there every day. South Lebanon is fenced in with kilometres of barbed wire; behind it are concealed concentration camps, where Lebanese and Palestinian patriots are put, and numerous Israeli military bases. The occupationists have even liquidated the border zone between Israel and Lebanon, as though the neighboring state did not exist at all. But it is precisely the destruction of sovereign, Arab Lebanon which Tel Aviv and its strategic ally Washington are seeking; they are seeking this by direct intervention, by kindling bloody strife, by the full-scale destruction of political, economic and social structures of southern Lebanon. The aggressors are starving out local inhibitants. The checkpoints on the roads are endless, the highways are closed, gardens and vineyards have been cut down, olive and orange groves have been burnt down, there is a decline in industry and agriculture. There are thousands of Lebanese who are unable to find work. What is left for them? To flee from the terror of the occupationists to the north of the country.

The Israeli plan for annexing the south of Lebanon was given the code name Northern Bank. The occupationists are pursuing there the same colonization policy as on the West Bank of the Jordan River. They would like the south of Lebanon to become the north of Israel, the bridgehead for future military adventures by Israel and the United States in the Near East.

The lessons of the Lebanese crisis, which has become a crisis of U.S.-Israeli policy in this region, have not taught anything to the two strategic partners. The enslaving deal, which precisely a year ago the United States and Israel imposed on Lebanon, has been an ignominious failure. This is a major success of Lebanese patriots and the whole Arab world, and first and foremost the success of the staunch anti-imperialist cause of Syria.

At present in southern Lebanon the struggle is flaring up against the Israeli occupationists. They are not succeeding in putting down the national resistance either by total terror or by armed provocations. An increasing number of Lebanese, at various poles, are realizing that the liberation of the south of the country from Israeli occupation is the main problem in settling the whole Lebanese crisis. And the key in the achievement of this aim is the national reconciliation of the Lebanese themselves, and the unity of all Arab, anti-imperialist forces. [end recording]

ISRAELI PLANES BOMB LEBANESE VILLIAGE NEAR SYRIA

LD201939 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 20 May 84

[Text] Beirut May 20 TASS -- In the afternoon today, the Israeli Airforce brutally bombed the Lebanese village of Dayr al-Ghazal in Al-Biqa' Valley lying at a distance of three kilometres from the border with Syria. Before dropping their death-carrying cargoes on the villages, the Israeli air pirates made provocative flights over the Lebanese capital.

KORIONOV SCORES U.S. THREAT TO NICARAGUA

PM181108 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 84 First Edition p 4

[Vitaliy Korionov "Political Observer's Notes": "They Are Threatening Sandino's Country"]

[Text] The people of revolutionary Nicaragua have been forced to take up arms to rebuff an enemy invasion. Fierce fighting is in progress on the country's northern and southern borders, where the Sandinist people's army and the population are thwarting the attempts of mercenaries coached by the CIA and trained by American "advisers" to get their claws into the young republic. The gangs' actions are in effect covered and supported by American troops in Honduras and naval forces blockading the Nicaraguan coast.

Not a day goes by without some Washington official making inflammatory calls with the aim of getting Americans used to the idea that a military conflict with Nicaragua is not far off. The U.S. President and his aides, the Pentagon and CIA chiefs, and responsible representatives of the State Department and other official institutions and departments take part in whipping up the tension. "On the Central America question," American journalist L. Cannon notes, "they are all 'hawks' in the administration." And he adds: "All the information received from administration spokesmen indicates that the decision to act in Central America is Reagan's."

The lies and slander machine has been set in motion at full speed to justify and "substantiate" the armed aggression which is being prepared. Statements come out continuously to the effect that the Sandinists "are exporting revolution to neighboring countries," hampering the implementation of the democratization process there," and even want to "deliver Soviet missiles there." The Americans are intimidated by the idea that if the Sandinist revolution is not stopped, a "torrent of refugees" and "illegal immigrants" will pour into the United States. Moreover, the White House incumbent claims, "Central America is communism's path to Mexico and ultimately to the United States."

The vain attempts to make out that the U.S. Government is advocating a political settlement in Central America and that this is hindered by the stance of Nicaragua, Cuba, and even...the Soviet Union, are the height of hypocrisy. All this is upside down. In reality, it is Washington which is sabotaging the constructive efforts of Nicaragua, which proposes the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral treaties guaranteeing peace and security for all the Central American states. And it is Washington which blocks the proposals of the "Contadora Group" aimed at a political settlement of the region's problems.

The policy of military confrontation in the Central American region is an integral part of the present U.S. Administration's course of exacerbating tension wherever there is the least opportunity. Through the artificial creation of "hot spots" in various parts of the world, through the deployment of American Armed Forces and armaments on all continents, through blackmail with nuclear war, and even, if possible, through unleashing a world confrontation -- through all this, to the attainment of its own imperial objectives, this is the "general plan" of the American ruling elite. Military adventures in Central America, according to the ideas of the plan's authors, are to be rehearsals and steps on the path to the final criminal goal.

Throughout recent years, the Pentagon military has been holding military maneuvers in this region. The Pentagon has already announced that military maneuvers in Honduras will take place continuously until 1988. In the course of the maneuvers, operations to occupy other countries are rehearsed. It was during the Ocean Venture-81 maneuvers that the operation to seize Grenada was rehearsed. It is clear to everyone what goal is pursued by the current imitations of landings by troops on Nicaragua's Pacific and Atlantic coasts, and why the 82d Airborne Landing Division, the division of cut-throats who occupied Grenada, has been transferred to Honduras.

The United States is waging an undeclared war against revolutionary Nicaragua. In connection with the International Conference on Solidarity With Nicaragua and for Peace in Central America, held in Lisbon in early May, the following figures were cited: In the first 4 months of this year alone, there were 390 violations of Nicaragua's airspace, including more than 40 by U.S. military planes; there were 158 attacks on Nicaraguan territory by Honduran military subunits and mercenaries maintained by the United States; and 180 attacks by mercenaries who have found refuge in Costa Rica. Nicaragua's territorial waters were violated by U.S. warships on 83 occasions.

The scale of this undeclared war has recently increased sharply. In order to carry out raids on Nicaragua, the CIA and the Pentagon make use of gangs of surviving Somozaists whose number are estimated by some sources at 15,000, and by others at 18,000 men. Honduras is teeming with American troops who have been moved right up to the Nicaraguan border. Even some American senators are calling these units the "slow fuse of war." Airfields and other military installations are being built there at an accelerated pace, designed as bridgeheads for an invasion of Nicaragua. The WASHINGTON POST cites the admission of a "well-informed American military figure": "Apart from military reconnaissance planes, CIA and National Security Agency planes regularly fly over Nicaragua." In violation of all the norms of international law, the Reagan administration gave the criminal order to mine Nicaraguan ports.

Characterizing the White Hourse's role in the leadership of this "secret war," American journalist T. Wicker wrote: The Reagan administration denies that it is responsible for all these actions. "On what basis can it deny that it is responsible for the CIA... Who is the President of the United States? Who sanctioned the counterrevolutionaries' actions? Who periodically seeks money for them from Congress? Ronald Reagan. It is blatant cheating for his representatives to wash their hands and shift the blame from him and from themselves for the international incidents. One wonders what, in his opinion, the actions of the CIA-led counterrevolutionaries are, if not state terrorism?"

Having encountered angry condemnation of its criminal acts from international public opinion, Washington is trying hard to maneuver and find news ways of fanning anti-Nicaraguan hysteria. Tension is being whipped up in relations between Honduras and Nicaragua. The recent act of self-defense by Nicaraguan border guards who shot down an American-manufactured Honduran military helicopter which invaded Nicaragua's air-space, was used as a basis for actions aimed in effect at undermining Honduras' diplo-matic relations with Nicaragua. Washington is playing out a farce of "concern" for Costa Rica's security. San Jose's requests to Washington to send American weapons to Costa Rica are inspired. These weapons are already arriving. Moreover, the soli-citous "Uncle Sam" hints that he would be prepared to send his own armed forces to "defend" Costa Rica's territory on the pretext that that country does not have its own army.

The facts show that Washington is heading full-steam ahead for a large-scale military operation in the Central American region, directed first and foremost against Nicaragua.

The glorious son of the Nicaraguan people Augusto Cesar Sandino once warned the Yankee imperialists: If you move your troops against the Nicaraguan patriot soldiers, "our blood will fall on the white dome of your White House -- the nest where criminal plans are hatched." Having won freedom, the Nicaraguan patriots intend to defend it at all costs. All progressive mankind is on their side.

SELEZNEV HITS U.S. POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PM171443 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 May 84 First Edition p 1

[Georgiy Seleznev "International Review": "Aggression Being Prepared"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan recently delivered a speech on television devoted to Washington's policy in Central America. He proclaimed that military interference in that region and assistance to the gangs of Nicaraguan terrorists striving to overthrow the government in Managua is "the legitimate right and moral duty" of the United States.

In an attempt to justify his aggressive policy in Central America the master of the White House intimidated Americans with the notorious "communist threat." However, he cited no facts to corroborate his words. The President's entire speech was essentially nothing but an empty exercise in hypocrisy and damgoguery and in kindling hatred toward other peoples. It was a homily for state terrorism and war.

Recent events in Central America are arousing ever-increasing alarm. Grossly interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign states and imposing its will on their peoples, the Reagan administration is unceremoniously flouting the universally recognized norms of international law. As a result, the peoples of that region are today living through the most dangerous time in their entire history.

Knocking reactionary, dictatorial regimes together in some kind of front in Central America, Washington is intensively building up its military presence there. Honduras, which is unquestioningly giving over its territory to American military bases, has already practically been turned into a U.S. vassal. The Yankees are now trying to do the same with Costa Rica. The remnants of Somoza's national guard and other counter-revolutionaries are entrenched in the territory of those states under the CIA's wing. The U.S. special services have funded the creation there of dozens of training camps in which, according to foreign press data, more than 15,000 mercenaries are undergoing military training and being equipped.

Salvadoran punitive battalions are being trained in Honduras under the leadership of American instructors and are trying to intimidate the people with terrorism and save the puppet regime. On 3 February 1984, the White House published a statement expressing full approval for the recommendations of the bipartisan national commission on Central America headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Approval was given, in particular, for the commissions's recommendation to "considerably increase the volume of military aid to El Salvador," providing for additional military aid to it in the sum of $179 million in fiscal 1984 and $133 million in 1985. The U.S. President hypocritically justifies this support for the butchers of the people of El Salvador with the desire to "put an end to the military impasse and reliably secure democracy and economic growth."

An important role in implementing the Pentagon's aggressive plans is allocated to the U.S. Navy. It is no coincidence that dozens of U.S. warships have been assembled off the coasts of Central American states. The "Ocean Venture-84" maneuvers, in which an armada of warships and 30,000 servicemen are participating, began in the Caribbean in April of this year.

As ABC-TV reported, 4 days after rehearsing an "evacuation of civilian personnel" from the American military base at Guantanamo on the territory of Cuba, a Marine landing force was set down on Vieques Island (Puerto Rico). Methods of "rescuing American civilians and diplomats in a foreign state" were once again rehearsed.

American propaganda is trying to conceal the dirty plans of the Pentagon and the CIA behind a screen of "rescuing American civilians." But would many people believe this after the events in Grenada? Probably very few would. This accounts for the Pentagon leaders' persistent desire to conceal the true nature of the military maneuvers. "High-ranking military leaders," THE NEW YORK TIMES reported 1 May this year, "insist that "Ocean Venture-84" is not a preparatory stage for an attack on Nicaragua."

But the facts attest that the purpose of the buildup of the military presence and other U.S. actions is to place that region under American control and suppress its peoples' desire for freedom. "In less than 2 years," the British bourgeois newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES candidly writes in an article published 1 May, "the United States has done everything necessary to launch a LARGE-SCALE INTERVENTION [published in boldface] (my emphasis -- G.S.) anywhere in Central America."

The American policy of brigandage is spearheaded against Nicaragua. After threats and economic pressure failed to make that country's people turn from the revolutionary path, the CIA and the Pentagon unleashed an undeclared war against them. This year alone, 390 violations of Nicaragua's airspace have been committed, including 41 violations by U.S. military aircraft, and there have been 158 attacks on Nicaraguan territory by Honduran military subunits and mercenaries in the pay of the United States and 180 attacks by mercenaries who have found refuge in Costa Rica.

At the same time, Nicaragua's territorial waters have been violated 83 times by U.S. warships from both the Atlantic and the Pacific. Over the past 2 years, 1,887 of the country's inhabitants have died as a result of the actions of bandit groups trained and paid by the United States, and damage running into the hundreds of millions of dollars has been done to the Nicaraguan economy.

The CIA began mining Nicaraguan ports on Reagan's personal instructions. As a result, 11 ships have been blown up by mines while entering or leaving the ports of Sandino and Corinto in the space of 6 weeks. These include Japanese, Dutch, Soviet, and Panamanian ships. Damage in excess of $200 million has been done as a result of mining the ports. Sustained fighting developed in northeast Nicaragua at the beginning of April between the Sandinista armed forces and CIA-controlled terrorists. In the south, bandits with bases on Costa Rican territory mounted fierce attacks for the purpose of capturing the port of San Juan del Norte. Practically all the anti-Sandinist insurgents, THE WASHINGTON POST reports, are maintained by the CIA, costing the United States at least $7 million a month.

At the same time as supporting the counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries in their aggressive actions against the government and people of Nicaragua and against the liberation struggle in El Salvador, Washington is doing everything to block a political settlement in the region. Here the White House unambiguously expresses its intention to legitimate military tyranny on the pretext of "combatting international terrorism." Directive 138, drawn up by the National Security Council and signed by Reagan 3 April this year, permits inflicting "warning strikes" against those whom Washington deems its necessary to categorize as "terrorists." Directive 138 reflects the U.S. administration's desire not only to totally free its hands for bandit actions like the attack on Grenada but also to elevate international terrorism to the rank of state policy.

The U.S. actions constitute flouting of the principles and norms of international law and the UN Charter. The policy of imperialist brigandage -- it may rightly be called the "Reagan doctrine" -- poses a threat to the peoples of Latin America and the entire world. "Reagan is essentially proclaiming an absolutely new doctrine in foreign policy," THE NEW YORK TIMES admits. "This is a very unusual precedent which would 'legitimate' U.S. military actions in other parts of the world when Reagan decides that it is again necessary to rescue democratic institutions in the form in which he understands them."

But Reagan's understanding of democracy is specific, to put it mildly. Thus, Napoleon Duarte has been elected to the post of president in El Salvador as a result of the "election" farce. There was a sharp increase in terrorism in the country during the period when that "liberal" headed the junta (1980-1982): 45,000 Salvadorans died at the hands of American-trained goons and the "death squads" associated with the CIA. Do Reagan's other allies both in Central America and throughout the continent appear any better? It is sufficient to recall friends of his such as Pinochet in Chile or Stroessner in Paraguay!...

Reagan and his entourage view the liberation movement in the Central American countries through the prism of the "East-West" conflict, seeing in it the "intrigues of Moscow and Havana." This is a crude distortion of reality. The peoples of Central America rose to the struggle because they were forced to do so by life itself: poverty, hunger, lack of rights. It was no coincidence that, criticizing Washington's desire to resolve Central America's problems by military means, American Senator Gary Hart said: "We must, in fact, tackle the most menacing problem in the region -- poverty; but we are not doing so."

Assessing the reasons for Central America's acute problems and the ways to resolve them, UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar noted with approval the efforts of the "Contadora Group" toward a political settlement of the conflict and emphasized: "I believe that Latin American problems must be resolved by the Latin Americans themselves..."

Soviet people are profoundly indignant at the aggressive U.S. actions against sovereign Nicaragua. They demand that the United States abandon the policy of state terrorism in Central America and give the peoples of the region the opportunity to determine their destiny independently.

The events in Central America attest that the present American Administration, fulfilling the will of the most aggressive U.S. forces, is advancing further and further along the path of dangerous adventures. As Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko pointed out in reply to PRAVDA's questions: "The U.S. Administration is continuing to gamble on military force, on achieving military superiority, and on imposing its own customs on other peoples." But the world's peoples will never reconcile themselves to the imperialists' impudent actions. Honest people throughout the world resolutely demand that peace be ensured in Central America and Washington's aggressive plans thwarted.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES GEORGIAN PARTY AKTIV

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["Report by Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, at the meeting of the republic's party aktiv on 25 April 1984": "On the Results of the April (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Georgian Party Organization's Tasks Arising From the Plenum Decisions and From the Plenum Speech by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] Comrades!

Very important political events have taken place in the life of the party and people. A plenum of the CPSU Central Committee has been held. It was followed by the 1st session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation. The session embarked on its work with precise, clear guidelines which were contained in the speech at the plenum by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

As you know, Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and an outstanding figure in the Communist Party and the Soviet state, was unanimously and with great enthusiasm elected chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. This decision was greeted with unanimous approval in the country. It met with a warm response in the hearts of Communists and of all our working people, who will always remember Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's visit to Georgia, his speech at the ceremony devoted to the presentation of the Order of Lenin to Tbilisi, his talk with the republic's leaders, and his meetings with labor collectives.

Permit me, dear comrades, on your behalf and on behalf of the Communists and all the working people of Soviet Georgia, to warmly and cordially congratulate Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko -- our tried and tested, militant party leader, and now our all-union elder [starosta] -- on his election as leader of the Soviet state, and to wish him good health, new strength, and new energy in his multifaceted, indefatigable party and state activity for the sake of our great motherland's further prosperity, to the glory of our Leninist party, and for the sake of peace and happiness on earth.

The first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet formed the USSR Council of Ministers. Comrade N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo was appointed chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers again, and at the USSR Supreme Soviet session he delivered the Soviet Government statement on its forthcoming activity.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee April (1984) Plenum and the 1st session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation, like his speeches at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee February Plenum and to voters in Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy Rayon, analyzed profoundly and comprehensively the most important directions of work to improve developed socialism, and they contain a detailed program for communist construction, for the country's socioeconomic and political development, and for the improvement of the international situation. The task now is to put this program into practice, in the form of real, practical actions.

The plenum devoted considerable space to the tasks of further improving the work of the soviets of people's deputies, of their steady implementation of the Leninist principle of the unity of legislation, administration, and control, and of the wide involvement of working people in the committed management of state affairs.

This task can be fulfilled only on the basis of widespread development of the masses' initiative and creativity -- a mighty lever for social progress. As was noted at the plenum, there are vast, as yet unexploited reserves here for galvanizing the masses, and the task is to utilize these reserves in the best possible way and to fully realize the soviets' vast potential.

Last September, at the republic meeting of representatives of local soviet ispolkoms, we had a detailed discussion of the soviets' growing role in resolving the most important national economic, social, and sociopolitical tasks. The need to further improve the style, forms, and methods of soviets' work in connection with the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the work of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee to improve the management system, enhance the standard of economic work, and ensure the rational utilization of resources was discussed in detail at the latest plenum of the republic party organization's Central Committee at the beginning of this month. Moreover all these problems are always on the agenda at sessions of our Bureau and Central Committee Secretariat.

Now that the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum and the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet have defined the main directions for the soviets' activity, given concrete form to the tasks, and paved the way for their implementation, the most important thing is to improve in every possible way the forms and methods, the very style of party leadership of the soviets with a view to ensuring that they realize as effectively as possible their potential and the powers invested in them by the USSR Constitution.

Improving the style of party leadership of the soviets means improving the practice of preparing for and holding sessions and meetings of ispolkoms and standing commissions, making wider use of the deputy's question as a form of control, persistently eradicating instances of formalism in the work of soviet organs, and enhancing the deputies' responsibility.

Today there is reason to say that precisely as a result of the strengthening of party leadership, a definite system has grown up in our republic in the work of the soviets, from the Supreme Soviet down to the local soviets.

We have the preliminary press publications of the agenda for the forthcoming session, requests to the working people to share their opinions and proposals on the ways and means of most effectively resolving the questions submitted for examination and on the elimination of existing shortcomings, and so forth. The analysis of working people's letters to party and soviet bodies and to press organs, the study of public opinion on a particular issue -- all this helps us to draw up basic political documents and adopt the best substantiated decisions.

We also have deputies' questions [zaprosy] to state organs and officials. Such questions are submitted at virtually every session. For instance, many questions have been put by deputies at the sessions of the present convocation of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet. More than 2,000 questions have been put to the local soviets in 2 years, questions on the most acute, pressing problems. Deputies' criticisms and proposals are recorded, analyzed, and responded to. On the basis of the proposals of republic Supreme Soviet Deputies M.L. Mdivani and I.G. Gverdtsiteli, special Georgian Communist Party Central Committee resolutions were adopted.

We also have the improvement of the activity of soviets' standing commissions. The practice of holding joint sessions of various Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet commissions and visiting sessions of the commissions helps make it possible to examine in more specific, concrete terms questions which arise, so to speak, at the "junction" between different management spheres.

On average the commissions hear 10-12 reports from various leaders per year, which helps in establishing better monitoring of the activity of the ministries and departments concerned. Measures aimed at establishing closer coordination and collaboration among the standing commissions created by soviets at different levels, but concerned with similar questions, merit approval. For instance, the chairmen of the relevant local soviet commissions have begun to be invited to sessions of the Supreme Soviet standing commissions, and they are also becoming involved in studying concrete issues in various regions, and so forth.

I could add to the above the integrated weeks and days of soviet deputies' meetings with voters which have become part of our practice, the formation of deputies' territorial and production groups and posts, which unite one-fourth of the deputies of all the republic's soviets, the practice of instructing soviet workers in questions of soviet construction, and much more besides. The list is endless.

But even in this sphere, the sphere of improving party leadership of the soviets, we cannot be satisfied with what we have achieved, since here too we have many unresolved questions and serious shortcomings.

We have local soviets whose activity is far from fully in accordance with the demands of the times. For instance, the Akhmetskiy, Gegechkorskiy, Kabegskiy, Kaspskiy, and Akhalkalakskiy Rayispolkoms do not carry out concrete organizational work to fulfill their own decisions or display the necessary exactingness toward workers regarding the practical implementation of the resolutions adopted. The executives do not report to the ispolkom on progress in fulfilling the instructions given to them, and when these instructions are fulfilled unsatisfactorily, this fact does not receive a principled assessment.

Sessions and meetings of ispolkoms and standing commissions are not prepared with sufficient thoroughness in Tsalendzhikhskiy, Lentekhskiy, and Tsalkskiy Rayons. The deputies and the broad aktiv are not sufficiently involved in this work. Due attention is not devoted to the voters' instructions. Deputies' questions are submitted extremely rarely. The decisions and recommendations adopted are, as a rule, superficial and unspecific in nature, do not influence the state of affairs, and are not much help in eliminating shortcomings or omissions.

Who, if not the party gorkoms and raykoms, should be helping the soviet ispolkoms to improve their standard of work?

First of all the party committees must help the soviets to study concrete questions of economic and cultural construction in greater depth and to tackle them in a more concrete way. Correspondingly, the questions examined at sessions of soviets, especially local soviets, must be devoted to the resolution of absolutely concrete, practical matters affecting individual sectors or even the life and work of individual labor collectives.

Improving the style of party leadership of the soviets means teaching the local organs of power to adopt concrete, clear, well founded, realistic decisions on every question and ensure their strict implementation.

The soviets' functions are extensive and the sphere of application of their forces is vast. It is very important for party committees to channel them toward the resolution of the main, basic questions, help them select from the multiplicity of problems those which are most important, most topical, urgent, and acute, and warn the soviet organs against trying to tackle everything at once, but failing to see anything through, as often happens.

Every city, every rayon, every region has its own characteristics, its own peculiarities. It is the prime duty of local soviets to constantly take these into account in their work. To this end, party committees must define the specific sectors of work where the soviets may obtain the greatest results, where their activity will be most effective.

It is necessary to help the soviet ispolkoms to conduct a systematic analysis of their activity, such as has been in progress in the party committees for 2 years. As with any matter, in mass organizational and political education work by the soviets it is important to single out the main, basic component, so as to ensure that in every soviet organ one aspect of its activity is exemplary and instructive, that every soviet has its own face, its own "spirit."

Improving the style of party leadership of the soviets means first and foremost improving the selection, placing, and education of cadres in soviet organs, and increasing exactingness toward Communists and elected soviet deputies.

And, of course, special responsibility must rest with the soviet ispolkom workers. Their political and practical qualities and their exacting approach to their task largely determine the successful fulfillment of the functions entrusted to executive committees for monitoring the work of management organs and the exacting, objective assessment of the activity of officials and economic leaders at all levels and in all components.

Unfortunately, not all comrades are up to the demands made on them. Because of serious shortcomings in the distribution of housing which were uncovered recently in Zestafoni City, the Zestafonskiy Raykom Bureau and plenum recommended that the city soviet session relieve ispolkom chairman L.Sh. Chkheidze and his deputy G.S. Leonidze of their posts. Strict party penalties were imposed on the former gorispolkom chairman, T.A. Kirvalidze, now deputy rayispolkom chairman, and on former deputy gorispolkom chairman C.G. Turkadze, now general director of a production association in local industry.

As a result of the lack of control and the connivance on the part of the gorispolkom, A.D. Nebiyeridze, deputy director of the Gruzkabel plant, managed to obtain two communal apartments in the city of fraudulent means. Strict exactingness and principledness were displayed by the plant party organization, which expelled Nebiyeridze from the party. This stance on the part of Zestafonskiy Raykom, which throughout the last few years has been waging a keen, implacable struggle against violations of discipline and all negative pheomena, merits all-round support. Just such a principled assessment must be given of any instance of unscrupulousness, irresponsibility, or, if you like, unseemly behavior on the part of workers on soviet organs. In such instances the most implacable, active, aggressive stance is necessary on the part of the party committee.

Every soviet ispolkom worker must be the personification, the living embodiment of soviet power. Like party workers, they are the gold reserve of our party and our state. Today we remember, stage by stage, the entire process of the improvement in party leadership of the activity of the republic's soviet organs and the implementation of cadre policy in those organs which followed the CPSU Central Committee resolution on Tbilisi Gorkom. Whereas at first we only watched the soviet workers, carefully studied their practical and political qualities, and evaluated how far they were up to the tasks facing Georgia's party organization, subsequently, approximately in the mid-seventies, when the backbone of leading soviet workers had largely been formed, it was possible to entrust them with autonomy in resolving major problems. They began to grasp specific tasks between and to study more profoundly the questions of the life of their regions and their collectives.

The new USSR Constitution created all the conditions for further uncovering the tremendous potential inherent in the soviets, and it was necessary to realize this potential as fully as possible. The well-known economic experiments began to mature, based on the soviets; the principles of the pooling of efforts began to take shape, the scale of creation of rayon agro-industrial associations began to increase, and the ground began to be prepared for improving the territorial management of the national economy on a citywide scale.

The time has now come to judge the soviets' work in terms of how fully and effectively they implement the rights and powers granted to them and whether they strive sufficiently energetically to introduce and disseminate all that is most valuable and useful. Today not only party organs, but soviet organs too must be responsible for everything in their region, and it is they who largely bear the responsibility for resolving economic, social, cultural, and consumer questions and many others.

So from year to year the concept of party leadership of the soviets has developed and continues to develop. So life itself, practice itself, gradually pursues the line of delimiting the functions of party and soviet organs. So the soviets' activity improves and their prestige grows.

The CPSU Central Committee April Plenum and the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet armed the soviets of people's deputies and their executive committees with a clear and specific program of action. Today it may be said confidently that the republic's party organization is fully prepared for the practical implementation of this program and the propositions and conclusions contained in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech.

Improving the style of party leadership of the soviets means increasing their role in economic construction. This, one may say, is the key question, the key problem, the most important avenue of the soviets' work.

A week ago, at a joint session of the republic Central Committee Bureau and Council of Ministers Presidium, we summed up the results of work in the national economy in the first quarter of the year. The results are relatively encouraging. The industrial production plan was overfulfilled by 3.1 percent. Output worth more than R74 million was produced over and above targets. The growth rate compared with the corresponding period last year was 7.4 percent. Labor productivity increased by 6.1 percent, which is 21 percentage points above the plan target. This indicator accounted for nearly 84 percent of the growth in industrial production. Some 16 percent of the total volume of production is output in the top quality category. The number of enterprises which did not fulfill plans for commodity output was halved, and the number not fulfilling plans in terms of output sales fell by 10 percent. Some 85,000 square meters of housing were commissioned.

The Leninist Communist subbotnik was a day of the highest possible labor productivity in the republic. Some 3 million people took part. Industrial output worth more than R32 million was produced. This is twice as much as last year.

So some successes are in evidence.

At the same time, serious laggardness was allowed to occur in the first quarter in certain sectors. There must be concern that the industrial output sales plan was underfulfilled by 2.4 percent, taking account of delivery commitments, and the volume of output not delivered totaled more than R55 million. In all, 183 enterprises failed to meet plan targets for this indicator. The proportion of such enterprises is especially high in the Ministry of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of Light Industry, and the Ministry of Local Industry.

The level of labor productivity fell at 225 enterprises, that is, nearly one-fourth of the total number.

We cannot tolerate the fact that certain leaders have not adopted a sufficiently serious approach to the fulfillment of socialist pledges for an additional 0.5-percent reduction in the prime cost of output. As a result a number of enterprises failed to cope with this important target, although generally the republic's industry has overfulfilled the pledge it adopted for the first quarter.

There are instances of violations of labor discipline, of failing to meet plan targets, and of amending them downwards. In certain ministries, departments, enterprises, and associations financial discipline is still being grossly violated. As a result in the first 3 years of the 11th 5-Year Plan the national economy failed to receive industrial output to the tune of R678 million, plus more than R47 million in the first quarter of this year.

At the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum the question was formulated thus: for every disruption, for every shortfall allowed to occur this year, the reckoning must be stricter than ever. This is the principled instruction of the Central Committee plenum. And this reckoning must be applied, alongside party and economic organs, to the local organs of power, on which the successful resolution of tasks in the comprehensive development of the economy in each rayon and each city largely depends.

That is why it is so important now to improve the style of party leadership of the soviets and utilize all forms and methods of party influence in order to increase the effectiveness of the soviet organs' work and eliminate the existing shortcomings and elements of formalism. Greater persistence in utilizing their rights and eliminating departmental barriers, greater flexibility and a more concrete approach in their work -- these are the demands made on the local soviets today. And they must fulfill these demands under the leadership and with the help of the party committees.

The soviets' role must be enhanced in the life of every city and every rayon, every settlement and every village. Their main concern is to ensure that housing, hospitals, and childrens' institutions are commissioned on time, that the citizens' needs and requirements are dealt with carefully everywhere, and that there is no bureaucracy or red tape in resolving even the simplest matters, or violations of state discipline or socialist laws.

But such cases are still encountered often. Insufficient persistence and consistency is displayed in resolving questions of social development by, for instance, the Agidenskiy, Aspindzskiy, and Onskiy Rayispolkoms. Despite the fact that the material and technical base for education, health care, culture, sport, trade, and consumer services is extremely weak here, the resources allocated for these purposes are by no means fully utilized. The ispolkoms do not display proper exactingness, ensure that work is carried out to a high standard, or strive for proper state order. And the party committees do not exercise sufficient control over their activity or direct that activity.

Neighborhood [mikrorayon] soviets can do much that is useful in resolving social problems. This is a kind of social administration experiment which we have been conducting in the republic for 10 years now. And it must be said that this experiment has been vindicated. The local soviets' ties with the masses become closer and they are now more actively involved in social self-management. The republic now has 56 neighborhood soviets in operation, which means that these local authorized representatives, so to speak, of soviet organs now exist in virtually all our major cities.

Party organs and soviet ispolkoms must further improve these forms of social self-management, consolidate the rights and powers granted to them, extend their field of activity, and display greater concern for strengthening their material and technical base.

An important role belongs to the soviets in the further improvement of nationality relations, which will be discussed below. Here I would just like to say that much must be done by soviet organs in the field of internationalist, military-patriotic education in connection with the preparations for such noteworthy events as the presentation to the republic of the Order of Lenin, which it has been awarded in connection with the bicentennial of the Georgiyevsk Friendship Treaty which linked Georgia's destiny to Russia forever, and the approaching 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. We have laid good, solid foundations for a fitting greeting for these dates, and on this we must build all our further work to develop an internationalist outlook and a high standard of nationality relations. Here the most important thing is to ensure comprehensive, purposeful work by party and soviet organs, the soviets of people's deputies, and all our ministries, departments, economic institutions, and public organizations.

Concern for internationalist and military-patriotic education must be closely combined with a solicitous attitude toward all peoples' cultural attributes and progressive national traditions and customs.

In introducing new, Soviet people's festivals, rituals, and rites, we must do everything to preserve the diversity of the national forms which have grown up historically and to endow them with new, socialist, internationalist content. Particular significance is attached to the propagandization of the richest revolutionary, combat, labor, and international traditions.

A good tradition was born last year, when for the first time the republic held a Memorial Day -- a day of ideological, political, spiritual, and family continuity. This year it became a mass event for the whole people. Memorial ceremonies were held at the monuments and tombs of outstanding party and state figures, scientists, masters of culture, and war and labor heroes, in which nearly all the republic's population took part. People went to the graves of their relatives and friends. The new ritual suited the broad masses of working people and found an ardent response among them. It is the duty of the living to remember the dead.

Daily putting into practice the lofty principles of the Leninist nationalities policy, ensuring the harmonious development of representatives of all the republic's nations and ethnic groups, educating them in the spirit of mutual respect and friendship, love for the Soviet motherland, and readiness to defend socialism's great gains -- the soviets of people's deputies must see all this as their own vital cause, and party committees must enhance their role and responsibility in all this important historical work.

Comrades! As is known, alongside tasks of further improving the work of the soviets of people's deputies, the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum and the first USSR Supreme Soviet session examined and approved the Basic Guidelines for the Reform of General Educational and Vocational Schools.

We see some continuity in the fact that at the plenum and then at the session these two issues were examined together, simultaneously, one after the other. The following link can be perceived here: the soviets are a true school for further improving socialist democracy and society's entire political system, while Soviet schools lay the foundations for the formation of the comprehensively developed individual who absorbs in youth the principles of Soviet, socialist democracy.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko described the school reform as a question of tremendous general political significance. After all, the need for reform is dictated both by the urgent requirements of the country's socioeconomic progress, and by the vital interests of every Soviet person and every Soviet family.

The basic guidelines for reform carefully preserve and utilize everything of value that mankind has developed in the sphere of upbringing and education, the many years of experience of our nationwide education system, and the best achievements of pedagogical science.

This is a strategic program which forms an integral part of the range of measures to improve developed socialism which is being implemented by the party and people. It is characterized by its depth, scope, systematic approach, and orientation toward bringing school closer to "tumultuous life," as V.I. Lenin said.

Certainly the reform's aims and tasks include the eradication of all kinds of negative phenomena and everything that has outlived its usefulness and is hampering our progress.

Soviet education must raise, teach, and educate the young generation in light of the conditions in which they will be living and working in the approaching 21st century. Education is called upon to develop in young men and women a scientific, Marxist-Leninist world outlook, educate them in the spirit of internationalism and the fraternal friendship of peoples, and raise patriots who are always ready to defend the fatherland.

The reform's main provisions give concrete form to K. Marx' proposition -- "...the combination of productive labor with education is one of the most powerful means of restructuring modern society" -- and that of V.I. Lenin, who believed that without this combination "it is impossible to conceive of the ideal of the future society." Labor in the school is being transformed from something episodic to something systematic, from a kind of secondary component to one of the basic components.

The reform's implementation will ensure that the students acquire knowledge, skills, and habits which accord with the demands of the scientific and technical revolution and the requirements of a kind of production which has been transformed and intensified to the maximum possible degree.

The implementation of the basic guidelines for reform will mean, in practice, the full realization of Lenin's idea of an integrated, labor-oriented, polytechnical school system.

It was noted at the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum that the Central Committee draft on school reform has been enriched by the collective intelligence and life experience of millions of people. I would like to express my great satisfaction that our republic's working people discussed with tremendous interest and unanimous approval the provisions of the draft basic guidelines for reform. The draft was examined in all labor collectives, with the participation of nearly 3 million people, and more than 150,000 proposals and observations were submitted.

Party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs and the mass media did considerable work to study and systematize the wishes expressed. The discussion of the draft was constantly at the center of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee's attention. In order to examine questions connected with the implementation of the requirements of the basic guidelines for reform and to implement the most important proposals, a special commission was set up under the chairmanship of Comrade D.L. Kartvelishvili.

In a word, work to implement the provisions of the form has in effect already begun in our republic.

I would also like to stress that the Central Committee Politburo commission headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko included representatives of our republic, and that during the compilation and finalization of the draft a whole series of proposals put forward by the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee on the basis of the widest discussion were taken into account. So, comrades, each of you has contributed a share of work to the formation of this truly collective document.

Nationwide approval greeted one of the reform's main, most fundamental provisions -- that of ensuring the fruitful combination of study with productive labor and improving the young generation's training for labor, which proposes involving students, starting in the junior grades, in systematic, organized, socially useful labor appropriate to their health and age. The time needed for the labor training of schoolchildren is being considerably increased, and annual labor practice is being extended at the cost of a slight reduction in the summer vacation.

A task of great state and social importance is set -- that of ensuring that all young people, including secondary school graduates, master a specific profession before beginning their labor activity, and determine their own prospects for life on the basis of a conscious need for labor.

It is important that some groundwork for the implementation of this measure has already been done in the republic. At present 2,450 of the republic's elementary and secondary schools have technical workshops, while 641 schools have offices equipped for service labor; the number of schools with training and experience sections has increased. Under in-depth labor training programs, students at 300 schools acquire the profession of truck drivers, and at 870 schools they learn to drive tractors. Some 117,000 students in the senior grades are currently undergoing in-depth labor training.

School workshops are supplied every year with machine tools, sewing machines, training tractors and motor vehicles, offices equipped for auto engineering, motor vehicle simulators, and sets of agricultural implements worth more than R2 million.

A number of secondary schools, in particular, in Dmanisskiy, Zestafonskiy, Vanskiy, Samtredskiy, and Tskhakayevskiy Rayons and the cities of Tbilisi, Kutaisi, and Tkibuli are setting a good example of involving students in socially useful labor which yields concrete results.

At the same time the reform's implementation implies a qualitatively higher level of organization of schoolchildren's labor. Every school must have its own basic enterprise, and these, in turn, must create as structural subunits, school and interschool workshops, production training combines, training shops and sectors, individual student work places, permanent field camps for student production teams, and work and leisure camps, providing them with all they need. It is very important that these should be structural subunits.

It is gratifying that Comrade O.Ye. Cherkeziya has begun the practical implementation of these measures and has already held a conference of leaders of ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations. I think it would be right for him to take this matter to its conclusion and submit to the commission headed by Comrade D.L. Kartvelishvili a concrete plan for gradually providing the republic's schools with the material and technical base for labor training.

Evidently the approach here must not be stereotyped. In some places school workshops must be created, in others interschool production training combines on a cooperative basis (incidentally, we have only 23 of these), in some places it is necessary to make use of the vocational and technical schools' basic facilities, and, of course, schoolchildren must be provided with individual work places in production.

Here we must be strictly guided by Comrade K.U. Chernenko's instructions: We must incorporate the allocation or creation of work places equipped with modern equipment organically in plans for the republic's economic and social development, and at the same time ensure that a real result, however small, is obtained without fail from every such work place.

Let us define our terms quite clearly, comrades. It is not a matter of some kind of labor obligation for children, but of the restoration of the natural equilibrium between intellectual development and labor education and the strengthening of labor's role in the schoolchild's moral development, and, if you like, in his political education.

One fact must be mastered well -- accustoming the student from early childhood to labor and the habits of socially useful activity must without fail, absolutely without fail, be an entertaining, interesting, and -- most important -- creative process, or else alienation will take place, which will have an extremely negative effect in the future. In this matter formalism and indifference are all but a crime, because much depends on the student's first contacts with the labor principle, particularly regarding his world outlook.

Participation in labor only yields positive results when the schoolchild sees that the product of his labor is socially significant. Through labor and through the assessment of the product of his labor the schoolchild consolidates his social stance and asserts himself in society.

It is perhaps worth thinking about creating stores trading in schoolchildren's products. Naturally, the proceeds from selling them are not the most important thing here. In our view it is necessary to seek purposeful ways of involving children in work in the service sphere and to widely introduce various forms whereby children would provide services for themselves in the school, the family, and the preschool institution.

All this will help ensure the much-needed close link between labor education and economic education, the practical involvement of students in production relations, and the development of their independence. Every schoolchild must learn to value the earned ruble and have a clear understanding of such concepts as the plan, the thrift regime, labor productivity, prime cost, and autonomous financing.

After all, we have often recalled V.I. Lenin's words to the effect that for us Communists, the economy is the most important aspect of politics. And of course, it is necessary for those who teach and those who learn to understand this tenet in depth.

Naturally, we view labor education from the broadest standpoint. Mastering the habit of working independently over a book, being able to conduct experiments or work with computer technology -- this too is labor of paramount importance. Love of work is the crux of ideological and moral education, intellectual development, and a high future level of professionalism.

At the same time, as A.S. Makarenko put it so well: "Labor which is not accompanied by education, by political and social education, does not yield educational benefit, but is a neutral process." A very true, wise definition.

The attentiveness of our party and all our people to the problem of forming an individual of the socialist type is well known. Man not only was and is the main production force; the new type of man is also the vehicle for new production relations, an active fighter for his convictions, an ideologically and morally mature individual.

The unshakable foundation for communist education is still the formation in young men and women of a scientific, Marxist-Leninist world outlook, staunch materialist ideas, the ability to explain natural and social phenomena correctly, and an active life stance.

It must be said that in recent years much has been done in the republic's schools and vocational and technical institutions to make the teaching of subjects in the social and humanitarian field more purposeful, to increase the philosophical content of the teaching of natural science disciplines, and to introduce active forms of study.

Party and Komsomol workers, propagandists and lecturers, and party, war, and labor veterans are becoming more widely involved in the education of working people; the potential of the mass media is being better utilized.

Positive experience has been accumulated in educating students on the basis of the examples provided by the life and activity of the classical Marxist-Leninist writers, their theoretical legacy, and the CPSU's historical experience. Much is being done to propagandize the Leninist nationalities policy and the fraternal friendship of the USSR's peoples, and to promote the internationalization of young men and women's consciousness. Some 200,000 schoolchildren belong to international friendship circles and clubs.

Students' participation in events devoted to the bicentennial of the Georgiyevsk friendship treaty and their consciousness of involvement in events of great socio-political significance have helped to strengthen their international feelings and convictions and given a great ideological and political thrust to all educational work.

The tasks of students' military-patriotic education are resolved in close unity with those of international education, with the aim of developing deep love and devotion in them for our great motherland, high civic awareness, pride in their people and their Armed Forces, and patriotic feelings and convictions.

Many more positive examples could be cited, but now I would like to say this: The process of the struggle to establish a sound moral and psychological climate and eradicate all kinds of negative phenomena, a process which began in the republic after the CPSU Central Committee resolution on Tbilisi Gorkom, is first and foremost a process of struggle for the young generation.

It is in this struggle that we see the basis, the roots of the positive developments which can be observed in ideological education work with young people. And here the most important thing is to ensure that every adolescent understands well the meaning of the changes taking place in our country and comprehends the basic trends in social and economic development. This is of fundamental significance.

On the other hand, this approach makes it incumbent on us to be more self-critical and to see shortcomings and unutilized potential, the more so because the school reform is in itself a mobilizing phenomenon.

Let us take, first and foremost, the political education of young people. The world today is an arena of a struggle for the minds and hearts of millions of people -- a struggle without precedent in its scale and intensity. Our opponents organize the sophisticated, differentiated psychological indoctrination of young people. Young people's characteristic trustfulness and curiosity are cunningly exploited, their insufficient experience of life and society is taken into account, facts are juggled, and false arguments and often brazen lies are used.

Naturally, the question arises: Are we doing everything, everywhere, to raise politically mature young people and help them to understand and evaluate the essence of social and economic phenomena in the modern world and ultimately to penetrate the subterfuges of bourgeois propaganda? Unfortunately, no.

We have schools -- admittedly the exception! -- where many senior students have no idea at all of the laws of socioeconomic development, have only a poor knowledge of our party's and state's history, and are not interested in the republic's life today.

We also encounter other instances, which are diametrically opposite but are also intolerable, where political education amounts merely to passing on the sum of political knowledge. Yet this is a complex, lengthy process which requires all-around concern from parents, kindergarten tutors, teachers, masters of production training, and every conscientious citizen, and, of course, party and Komsomol organizations. And here the concern must be not so much to use verbal forms of education to instill the rudiments of politics, economics, and morality into adolescents who are critical by nature, but to involve them in our country's political life and give them the opportunity in practice to sense, understand, and grasp their civic duty and responsibility to the socialist motherland, the party, and the people.

The personality is formed and developed in action, in activity. Our country's multifaceted creative life, Soviet people's creative labor, democratic forms of the manifestation of every citizen's will and rights -- all this creates a really favorable atmosphere for the political tempering of students.

A role of considerable importance in this education must be played by student self-management. In the process of planning and management of the life of the student collective, Komsomol organization, Pioneer or youth camp, or labor team, schoolchildren will grasp the significance of duty and responsibility to society, the collective, and their own consciences. Student self-management will develop their sense of being the country's masters and will teach them a thrifty attitude to common property. Unfortunately, self-management is not yet being used in students' lives as an effective form of political education, and wholehearted approval should be given to the provision of the basic guidelines of the reform on its wide introduction into practice.

Schoolchildren's political education must find support in the teaching of the social humanities, in particular history, social sciences, the fundamentals of the state and law, and literature. We mentioned certain positive developments in the quality and orientation of the teaching of these subjects. However, cases are still not infrequent where, for instance, at history lessons the students' memories are stuffed with hundreds of dates, facts, and rulers' names, and this abundance of facts stifles the most important thing -- the independent evaluation of historical pheomena and the comprehension of the natural laws governing society's development. It should be remembered that historical thought is an integral part of political maturity and political tempering.

Certain shortcomings are characteristic of work in the study and propaganda of party congress and plenum materials and party and state documents; the most typical is the failure to link their study closely to local material, the life of the school, village, rayon, and republic, which prevents peple from mastering them and understanding them better. A number of educational institutions still lack an efficient system for using state symbols and the basic provisions of the Constitutions of the USSR, the Georgian SSR, and the autonomous republics for educational purposes -- very serious attention must be directed to this.

There should certainly be an improvement in the use of effective, purposeful counter-propaganda among students, and in particular the counterpropaganda thrust of textbooks in social and humanitarian sciences should be stepped up. The Ministry of Education's initiative on publishing counterpropagandist teaching aids for teachers and elaborating comprehensive scientific research topics on these questions merits approval.

Moreover, certain teachers believe that the political education of children should begin only in the senior grades, in parallel with the teaching of social science disciplines. This is a serious error. It is necessary to elaborate a new, elegant system of children's political education based on a knowledge of the psychology and inner world of the junior schoolchild today, the more so in view of the fact that they are by no means as indifferent to politics as some adults may think.

Political education is a very broad concept. It is necessary to consider all aspects of educational work -- moral, legal, aesthetic, and artistic -- as being in close unity with it, as integral parts of the formation of communist awareness.

The problem of young people's moral education have always concerned leading thinkers. Ilya Chavchavadze wrote: "True education is the indissoluble unity of a developed intelligence and an equally developed morality..."

It is today particularly important to ensure the organic unity of education with the ability and desire to serve high moral ideals. Schools must cultivate the inner desire to live and act according to the principles of communist morality and inculcate collectivism, integrity, truthfulness, kindness, and principle from an early age.

The cultivation of morality is inseparable from the cultivation of taste and sensible needs. This is the duty of the family, schools, and society. It is intolerable that many young men and women have a corrupt spiritual world, that their attitude to life can only be called consumerist.

Legal education is indissolubly linked to moral education. Here it is a question of developing in students an inner need to strictly observe the rules of socialist communal living and Soviet laws.

The systematic, comprehensive approach to the organization of educational work and the prevention of infringements of the law among juveniles in the republic has in recent years ensured a stepping up of work in this direction on the part of teaching and labor collectives, law enforcement organs, and public organizations, and, as a result, an improvement in the current situation overall.

Crime and the number of infringements of the law among juveniles have fallen significantly.

But it must not be forgotten that every instance of crime on the part of adolescents is the result of highly serious miscalculations and shortcomings in educational work. As a rule juvenile lawbreakers do not understand the laws, they have not been taught the difference between what is permitted and what is not permitted, and they can easily become tools fulfilling the desires of adult criminals. This means we are still teaching poorly, educating poorly. The Ministry of Education, the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education must improve legal teaching and step up their joint work with administrative organs, the Komsomol, families, and society as a whole.

It is necessary to realize fully the enhancement envisaged in the reform of schoolchildren's responsibility for the quality of study and the observance of educational, labor, and social discipline, and to introduce an effective system of incentives for application in study and labor.

Major tasks are set by the basic guidelines for reform in the sphere of improving the artistic and aesthetic education of students and developing in them a sense of the beautiful, high aesthetic tastes, the ability to understand and value works of art and the beauty and wealth of nature in our country, and the desire to cherish historical and cultural monuments.

We are already doing much in practice in this direction. The teaching of aesthetic subjects is improving, and competitions for the best work by a child, special concerts, and amateur artistic olympics; the creative work of many children's collectives is well known.

The number of artistic clubs in schools and nonschool institutions is constantly increasing. Regional interest and ethnographic school museums play a great educational role. Young men and women participate actively and with great interest in work to preserve and restore historical and cultural monuments.

The creation of a children's picture gallery, the all-union -- and, in fact, international -- festival of young movie lovers' workshops which has become traditional under the title "Tbilisi Dawns," the commencement of work on the 20-volume "Children's Library" plus the 5-volume "Talking About Art," and the creation of the "Classical Music Lovers' Club" based at the conservatory -- all these things should be numbered among the major events.

I would like to speak particularly of the Classical Music Lovers' Club, which has uncovered the secrets of the world of music to many adolescents. It is indeed a great, noble cause. It is headed by a remarkable master of musical art, our own well-known public figure Dzhansug Kakhidze. With the help of Georgian Television, the club's most interesting studies have been accessible both to all the republic's students and to their parents and teachers, to every one of us.

We are grateful to many representatives of the artistic intelligentsia and to creative unions and cultural institutions for their participation in young people's aesthetic education. But there is still plenty of work here. First and foremost this means creating brilliant works, high in artistic content and ideas, for children and young people. You all know well that here a didactic tone, moralizing, or unnecessary sentimentality are completely out; the author must not condescend to his reader, viewer, or listener, but must address him as an equal. It is well said: write for children as you would for adults, but better.

A work of art can have a tremendous influence on real life. Many examples of this exist in our life. Let us remember the role which the Timur movement [children's volunteer groups named for a character in an A. Gaydar story] played in the development of the Pioneer organization. The Pioneers and Komsomol members, all youngsters, need vivid, positive, stimulating examples just as much today. Becoming familiar with the world of the beautiful, the perfect, cannot fail to inculcate good taste and high moral standards in the student and protect him against the pernicious influence of bourgeois culture.

On the other hand, aesthetic education needs consistency and principle, and a pseudo-democratic approach -- saying that the children themselves will decide what is good and what is bad -- is impermissible. Aesthetic lack of discrimination is a form of ideological and philosophical lack of discrimination, because many aspects of culture have ideological content.

Everyone must remember this, not least the workers in our press, publishing houses, radio, and television, and all our ideological institutions.

The socialist society has a vital interest in ensuring that every schoolchild grows up to be physically developed, healthy, and happy, with at least a minimum knowledge of hygiene and medicine, understands his own organism for his youth and knows how to keep it in good order, and is, in a word, ready to work and defend the motherland.

The republic has accumulated much experience in the improvement of student's physical education. Preschool institutions, schools, and vocational and technical schools have introduced compulsory physical culture and health measures in accordance with their specific requirements; "physical culture" grades now count in deciding the question of going up to the next grade. Educational establishments' sports base has been improved and the network of children's and young people's sports schools has been extended.

But it should be frankly admitted -- and we spoke of this in detail at the recent party and economic aktiv meeting -- that by no means everything is going well with physical culture and sports work. Many schools do not have enough qualified teachers and insufficient importance is attached to physical culture lessons and mass physical culture and sports events. This does much to explain the existence of a large number of children with poor health, poor bearing, obesity, high blood pressure, and other deviations from the norm. Medical monitoring is slack.

There are serious shortcomings in the preparation and issuing of standards for the "Ready for Labor and Defense" system, the training of sports reserves, and the leadership of work by sports schools, special classes, and boarding schools specializing in sports.

The republic's Ministry of Education, State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, and Physical Culture and Sports Committee must adopt urgent measures and organize as soon as possible daily physical culture sessions for all students, making use of various forms and also of sports facilities regardless of their departmental subordination. The appropriate organs should take into account -- as soon as possible -- the fact that in the construction of new housing districts provision is not in effect made for the organization of sports grounds, still less special complexes.

A significant role must be played in the growing generation's education by nonschool institutions -- Pioneer palaces and institutes, centers for young naturalists, technicians, and tourists, specialized schools, children's libraries, Pioneer camps, and so forth. In the long term their development must lead to the creation of a range of nonschool institutions in every rayon.

The network of nonschool institutions in the republic is constantly widening. Since the start of the last 5-year plan the number of youngsters attending Pioneer camps and labor and leisure camps has increased from 80,000 to 200,000; the number of centers for young technicians, naturalists, and tourists has increased 100-200 percent. Quite recently the children of Kutaisi, Gegechkori, Terzhola, and Chkhorotsku received the gift of new buildings for their Pioneer institutes. The vocational and technical education palace of culture has considerably stepped up its work.

Studies in 5,000 groups and clubs help very many children to develop their outlook and spiritual needs and their educational and creative activity, to acquire particular labor habits, to develop their character and will and the ability to live and work in the collective and manage the collective's affairs, and, ultimately, to choose their future profession.

But we are still far from resolving the task of involving the vast majority of children in nonschool work. Nonschool institutions are operating in extremely difficult conditions in certain rayons in Tbilisi and in Gurdzhaanskiy, Karelskiy, Tetritskaroyskiy, Dzhavskiy, Leningorskiy, Khuloyskiy, and certain other rayons. The republic's construction workers have recently been disrupting plans for the commissioning of new Pioneer camp buildings.

Only one in every eight schoolchildren takes part in scientific and technical creativity and agricultural experimentation, and there is not enough concern for propagandizing their achievements and introducing them into production. Local soviet ispolkoms do not ensure the allocation of premises for work with children and adolescents.

These and other shortcomings must be eliminated, and eliminated as soon as possible. We would also like the ministers and departments taking part in the construction of the Mziuri children's education and health complex to speed up the fulfillment of their pledges. I believe that Mziuri could be the mainstay of an experiment to create a training and educational complex offering the opportunity to combine general education organizally with musical, artistic, and physical development.

The comrades know well that by way of fulfilling the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government have adopted a number of decisions on stepping up assistance to families with children. At the same time our party organization is implementing measures to increase parents' responsibility for raising their children. The labor collectives' responsibility is also being increased.

It should be noted that the work being done is fully in accordance with the demands of the basic guidelines for school reform and the provision on the need for coordinated efforts and unity of demands on students from the family, the schools, the public, and labor collectives.

A good example is set by Tbilisi's Leninskiy and Zestafonskiy Raykoms. Really substantial, interesting work has been done here and measures have been implemented with the aim of further strengthening the family and enhancing its potential for political education and the parents' personal responsibility in the political and moral education of children. These measures include systematic reports to the raykom by Communists, Komsomol members, and leadership workers on how they are fulfilling their duties as parents, and also reports from party bureaus and committees.

Within the framework of the multifaceted, comprehensive approach to the problem, new organizational forms of working with families and parents have been introduced experimentally -- coordinating commissions for family problems attached to party raykoms, sections attached to rayispolkoms, and -- most important -- parents' associations operating on a self-supporting basis.

Parents' associations or clubs are already operating actively in Gori, Zugdidi, Tskhakaya, Rustavi, Tbilisi's Gldanskiy and Kalininskiy Rayons, and certain other rayons and cities.

With the active participation of the Ministry of Education, the system of universal teacher training for parents [pedagogizatsiya roditeley] is being improved -- and this is the key issue. An active part is played by parents' universities, lecture centers, class and school meetings, parents' debates, conferences, and question-and-answer evenings.

I believe the time has come to state that parents' associations and clubs have earned the right to general recognition, and studying the experience of their activity has led us to conclude that it is expedient to create an authoritative republic center to direct and coordinate all work among parents at large.

An important task for all educational work is to provide correct vocational guidance for young people. The results of work to find places in vocational and technical schools and take up work or studies in accordance with the labor profession studied in school attest to some activation of vocational guidance measures.

However, there is no doubt that it will be expedient to proceed with the planned creation in rayons and cities of large vocational guidance centers to replace the uncoordinated, inefficient, and, frankly, often incompetent vocational guidance rooms and offices which function only formally in schools. Students will learn about modern professions and receive the necessary information on the particular features of each, the working conditions, and the cadre requirements of the rayon's or city's economy; here everyone's psychophysiological characteristics and abilities and inclinations for particular types of activity will be determined. It must be noted that in connection with the reform, the role of the State Commiteee for Labor and Social Problems and economic management and planning organs in vocational guidance work is sharply increased.

As is known, in the future it is planned to approximately double the proportion of students graduating from 9-year schools who enter vocational and technical schools -- taking into account the peculiarities of individual regions.

This increases the responsibility of parents, teaching collectives, and above all the schoolchild himself for the correct choice of his future profession and the educational establishment where he will continue his studies. You know that proposals for admitting people to the 10th grade in 11-year schools on the basis of a competition were rejected. And it is very important that this competition should not be replaced by another -- a competition of parents' abilities and pushiness, which, alas, is by no means always used to the children's benefit.

It is gratifying that the prestige of the vocational and technical education system has been increasing constantly in recent years. We have here a considerable number of schools equipped to the highest present-day standard and manned by highly skilled teachers and fine masters of industrial training. It may be said that secondary vocational and technical schools now have the very greatest potential for realizing the concept of the labor and polytechnical school, and it is a single concept -- in the sense that it relates to an identical standard of general education.

The decisions of the party-economic aktiv meeting held in April last year which outlined a package of large-scale measures which, as we can now see, were in line with the changes contained in the reform and which, to a great extent, determined the system's readiness to resolve today's tasks, have been implemented within the vocational and technical education system in a committed and efficient way. At the same time the extensive discussion held at the aktiv meeting allows us to touch on just a few main aspects of the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education system's activity.

The pace of its development is quite impressive. In the last two 5-year plans the vocational and technical school network expanded by 150 percent. In the first 3 years of the 11th 5-Year Plan the secondary and technical school network increased by 20 units compared to a planned figure of 12, the student admissions target is regularly overfulfilled, and the number of graduates being channeled into industry, construction, and agriculture is in excess of the plan target.

The contribution by the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education to the training of skilled cadres for the national economy is growing: at the beginning of the 5-year plan its contribution was 30 percent and by the end of the 5-year plan it will reach the planned 40 percent.

In conjunction with ministries and departments, the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education has drawn up a list of vocational and technical schools which will be built by means of state capital investments. In the 12th 5-Year Plan the target is to build 33 complexes providing 17,000 places.

It is true that much also needs to be done to eliminate the gap between the vocational and technical schools' material and technical base and the standard of modern industry. Out of 113 city schools, 32 have no industrial training workshops, and 9 rural vocational and technical schools have no training farm. Some shortsighted leaders of base organizatons have been providing the vocational and technical education system with old and unsuitable buildings lacking industrial training equipment and machinery and, even when acting as clients in the construction of new school complexes, have not been supplying them with equipment.

I believe that party committees should treat each instance of this kind as a manifestation of party indiscipline and assess it strictly.

A number of base organizations should also resolve such questions as the organization of vocational and technical school students' industrial practice at the requisite level including the regulation of pay, the employment of vocational and technical school graduates according to their discipline, and so forth. The State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education itself should investigate more attentively the reasons for the dropout rate among students, which stood at 7.2 percent of the total last year, should devise ways of increasing graduation in the industrial production system, and should take a more active part in the process of keeping graduates at base enterprises, even though we place the main responsibility here on the leaders and party and trade union organizations of those enterprises where these graduates are sent. There are a number of other problems which the reform makes it increasingly necessary to resolve.

Now a few words about joint work by the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education and the Ministry of Education. This work is becoming extremely important since there is a dual task to be resolved -- that is, the switchover to universal vocational education and ensuring the same high standard of general educational training in both systems.

Such links already exist -- primarily on the methodological level. Experience is being exchanged and joint measures implemented. The practice, begun experimentally, of creating secondary vocational and technical schools on the basis of boarding schools' unused capacities and of creating vocational and technical groups on the basis of rural 8-year schools has undoubtedly proved its worth.

The time is now ripe to give thought to the broader involvement of education workers in the general educational training of vocational and technical school students and, at the same time, to the provision of the most active assistance to schools by the vocational and technical education system in the formulation and implementation of a labor training program. Qualifications commissions, which are to evaluate the standard of vocational training according to uniform criteria, will probably also be formed on the basis of the vocational and technical schools.

The State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education's teacher training institute and scientific methodology center have outlined the long-term prospects for joint creative work in this area and formulated topical problems for schools and vocational and technical schools at the cooperation stage.

It may be stated with confidence that the reform's considerable positive potential rests in the unity of the tasks facing schools and vocational and technical schools, and will be realized in their joint activity.

Comrades! Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's instruction that "the emphasis we are now putting on education through labor suitable for the schoolchild, despite all its fundamental importance, is no substitute for the truth that children's chief labor is, of course, the study and firm mastery of the fundamentals of science," is of prime importance.

The most important, continuing task of Soviet schools is to impart to the rising generation in-depth and sound knowledge of the fundamentals of science, develop the skills and ability to use them in practice, and shape a materialist world view.

The basic guidelines for the reform established the necessity of compiling a detailed list of subjects studied and their coverage, eliminating overloading of educational programs and textbooks, and ridding them of the superfluity of overcomplicated or nonessential material.

The Education Ministry has already done some work in this direction. Improved programs and textbooks, supplementary and methods literature, and sets of visual aids, which are in line with the demands of modern teaching and school practice, have been created for a whole range of classes in different subjects.

This work must be stepped up taking account of the broader involvement of the best teachers, experienced methodologists, and prominent scientists in the preparation of textbooks and methods literature. Measures must also be thought out to provide extra incentives for authors' work and to expand printing capacities to fully meet the needs for educational, reference, and popular scientific literature on the fundamentals of science and on optional courses. Currently in the republic there is a shortage of literature for teachers, too little reference, methods, and supplementary literature, and [illegible]hing materials series in Georgian.

Life itself requ[illegible] students be armed with knowledge and skills in the use of modern computer e[illegible] and that computers be widely used in the educational process.

We will hardly be a[illegible] provide the necessary equipment for all schools in the immediate future. P[illegible]y the optimal solution is to create special interschool centers equipped wit[illegible]latest computers and educational computers.

The teaching body supported a proposition on the need to improve forms, methods, and means of teaching. As well as the lesson -- which is the basic form of the educational process -- it is proposed to make wider use of lectures, seminars, dialogues, practical tests, and consultations in the senior grades of schools, in vocational and technical schools, and secondary specialized educational establishments, which will invigorate the students, help them develop the skills of working with books and other sources of knowledge, and promote the development of independent thought which is so necessary today.

Students in senior grades who display special interest and ability in the study of individual disciplines are being granted the opportunity of in-depth study based on a choice of individual subjects in the physics-mathematics, chemistry-biology, and social-humanities groups with the help of optional studies. It is important to ensure that these studies are of the proper character from the start and prevent their being turned into a means of extra work with students on the compulsory educational program. In our view, we should not abandon the specialized schools and boarding schools which have proved their worth, in our republic in any case, which are a good basis for replenishing VUZes with well-trained school graduates.

It seems that an important means of raising the real level of students' knowledge is to eradicate formalism, percentage-mania, and sometimes forces superficial gloss. I think you will be pleased to hear that the recent CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution resolved -- along with many other problems -- the question of abolishing the schools' progress report.

But let us say here that the republic Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education should accelerate the elaboration of specific proposals in connection with the change in the rules for VUZ admissions, providing, in particular, for the removal of the point about taking into consideration the average certificate mark in the competitive enrollment of school leavers in VUZes.

The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education must also ensure the cardinal improvement of the training of highly skilled specialists and organizers of primary links of production, education, health care, culture, and the services sphere in secondary specialized educational institutions. The high quality of instruction in technical colleges creates the possibility of training specialists with higher education in shorter times, and particularly in trades of which there is an acute shortage -- which is of considerable significance for numerous developing sectors of the national economy.

Much has been done in recent years for the network of boarding schools and children's homes, to strengthen their material base, and to improve the pupils' living conditions. Special attention is devoted to children and adolescents who need special teaching conditions for health reasons, and a differentiated network of boarding schools, forest sanatorium schools, and other specialized teaching and educational establishments has been created and is developing.

However, it should be pointed out that the material and technical base of the republic's boarding schools and children's homes still does not meet the increased demands. There are sometimes delays over the construction and modernization of boarding establishments. There are cases of violations of the sanitary and hygenic regime and shortages of medical apparatus and medicines, and the organization of catering for pupils needs improving.

Patronage organizations, ministries, departments, and soviet ispolkoms still give boarding establishments insufficient material assistance. I wish to say that the rectification of the situation which has taken shape in some places must be not only a question of every leader's official duty but also the demand of his own conscience.

As is known, evening (shift) and correspondence schools, in which young working people acquire part-time secondary education, are being preserved. The Georgian Communist Party Central Committee has repeatedly examined questions of work to improve the state of the instruction of young working people and outlined a whole number of comprehensive measures in this direction.

The network of evening schools has been reorganized and rationalized in more than 60 rayons and cities. Over a decade the number of students in the schools and the number of adults completing a full course has increased approximately 50 percent; the students' dropout rate and the repeating of years have been more than halved.

At the same time there are still serious shortcomings and omissions in organizing the activity of these schools. Adequate propaganda of universal secondary education is not conducted everywhere in organizations and at enterprises, and proper work is not done to involve young workers in instruction or to create the necessary conditions for their successful studies.

The general educational -- and not just general educational -- training of students is closely interconnected with, and largely based on, the teaching and study of languages. I have repeatedly had occasion to address these issues, and our stand is clear and unequivocal.

Not so long ago the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers examined progress in fulfilling the 10 April 1979 resolution "On the State of the Teaching of Georgian Language and Literature in the Republic's Educational Institutions" and outlined a wide range of additional measures to improve the teaching and study of Georgian language and literature and to further develop the Georgian literary language. We will continue this line and deepen it.

We, and also local party committees, have examined questions connected with improving the study of the Abkhaz and Ossetian languages, and we plan in the very near future to hear how the resolutions on Armenian and Azerbaijani, and also Greek and certain other languages are being fulfilled. A most careful attitude toward the languages and culture of representatives of all the nations living in the Georgian SSR -- this is our party organization's principled stand.

The Central Committee and the Council of Ministers have adopted very important resolutions aimed at improving the standard of the teaching and study of Russian, which has been voluntarily chosen by all our country's peoples as the language of inter-nation communication. We are firmly convinced that under modern conditions every young person -- if he wants to gain full access to the treasures of world science and culture, to be a professional of a high standard, and to know how to defend his socialist homeland -- must be fluent in Russian. And we must resolve this task within the next few years, and resolve it above all in school.

Better conditions must be created in our educational institutions for young men and women to master foreign languages. A knowledge of languages is a priceless asset which widens a person's spiritual and intellectual potential to a huge degree. We must not forget that we are talking of preparing citizens of the 21st century, when there will be a sharp increase in the intensiveness of the exchange among people and nations.

Comrades! According to the basic guidelines for the reform, secondary general education schooling is to last 11 years, and in this connection, a new structure of general secondary and vocational education is being established. You know about it. The chief point is that a 6-year-old child goes to school. It has tc be said that we have been practicing the mass admission of 6 year olds to school for more than 15 years -- which was preceded by serious experimental research. This was begun in 1965 by the experimental didactics laboratory of the Ya. Gogebashvili Scientific Research Institute of Pegagogic Sciences; instruction in preparing classes in the republic's schools was based on the results of that research.

Today, more than 65,000 6 year olds are already being taught in school. They are all provided with appropriate textbooks, and their teachers with the necessary methods literature and aids.

It is mostly specialists in elementary education who work with 6-year-olds, and 82 percent of them are teachers with higher teacher training. They have also received appropriate additional training on courses to raise their qualifications. The republic's education organs have accumulated very rich experience of teaching 6-year-olds, not only under school conditions but also in older groups in a number of kindergartens -- experience that is of value to the whole country.

Thus, preconditions have been created in our republic for adopting the Education Ministry's proposal for a universal transition to 11-year tuition in the new academic year 1984-1985.

If this is decided, the Gosplan and the Ministry of Finance will have to promptly examine questions connected with transition to the new structure of tuition. As has been explained to us, it is possible to find a way to satisfy the additional requirements for financial and material backup.

With the start of the reform, children's preschool establishments are assuming ever greater significance. Together with the family, they fulfill the function of comprehensively educating and developing the preschool child. And they enable the mother to become actively involved in socially useful labor. I would like to speak in a most principled manner about their work and their development prospects at today's meeting.

As already stated, 27 preparatory groups, from which children enter the first grades in school, are now functioning for 6 year olds in 22 of the repubic's preschool establishments (Tbilisi, Telavi, Zugdidi, Vani, Dusheti, Signakhi). Today preschool workers are already becoming concerned with preparing 5 year olds for school. And this, of course, requires a certain reorganization of the preschool education system.

It is necessary to take into account the fact that, of the 2,200 permanent preschool institutions, nearly two-thirds have low staffing levels [malokomplektnyye] and the groups are made up of children of mixed ages, which hampers the organization of children's preparation for school. Despite the fact that the network of preschool institutions is growing intensively in our republic, unfortunately, some 400,000 children are still outside preschool institutions.

This problem is particularly acute in the countryside. The Ministry of Education has determined the number of children outside preschool institutions and the required number of kindergartens: In 1,000 villages in the republic, it is necessary to build low-staff kindergartens and creches with 62,000 places. There is a high requirement for additional preschool institutions in the cities of Tbilisi, Sukhumi, Batumi, Tskhinvali, Rustavi, and Zugdidi.

According to the Gosplan's long-term calculations, the republic's provision of kindergartens and creches on the basis of state capital investments will not reach the normative until the year 2000. Naturally, we cannot regard this as suitable. Apart from other factors, the school education of children from the age of 6 can be at its most productive only when they leave the preschool institutions well prepared.

I think it is necessary to instruct a group of comrades to study the potential of all -- all, let our economic leaders mark well -- enterprises and organizations to ensure the solution of this question, mainly, as early as the 12th 5-Year Plan. Here we must take very bold measures and have no fear of taking a justified risk.

In light of the above, the Ministry of Rural Construction's intention of commencing the manufacture of special ferroconcrete and other articles and structures to make it possible to assemble kindergarten and creche buildings as rapidly as possible, must be approved.

The implementation of the reform will increase the functions of extended-day schools and groups -- one effective form of social education of children and adolescents. In the 10th and 11th 5-Year Plans, they have increased in number in the republic almost sixfold; today more than 127,000 children study and are educated in extended-day schools and groups.

All the same, the Georgian SSR's indicator for the provision of extended-day schools and groups for children is not much more than half the unionwide average.

It must also be admitted that teaching collectives do not everywhere make use of the potential of extended-day groups to ensure the unity of students' ideological, political, labor, and moral education, and aesthetic and physical development, and, not infrequently, they only occupy the children with doing their homework.

I believe it is necessary in the near future for the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee to examine the question of the work of party, soviet, and economic organs, and enlightenment institutions in this direction and to outline ways of meeting the population's requirements for schools of this type and improving their standard of work.

A few words about the material base of general educational schools as a whole: We have a high rate of school building and as a rule the construction workers fulfill the plans. In the 9th through 11th 5-Year Plans, 1,073 schools with 435,000 places were commissioned. Tremendous work has been done.

But the problem of providing enough schools for children is far from resolved. Here are a few facts: 161,000 schoolchildren study on a second shift, 345 schools with a contingent of 50,000 people are in emergency buildings, and 477, with a contingent of 60,000, are in adapted buildings.

According to rough calculations, we need R460 million for school building. The level of state capital investments allocated will not enable us to meet this requirement in the near future. The only way out is to involve the resources of ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations, first and foremost rayon agro-industrial associations, and to build on our own initiative.

The commission headed by D.L. Kartvelishvili should help us to resolve these and other questions. I think it should submit for examination by the next Central Committee plenum a detailed stage by stage plan for measures to strengthen the material and technical base of all spheres of education. This plan should probably provide for building general educational, vocational and technical schools, and preschool and nonschool institutions, provide them with furniture, equipment, and apparatus, and create a labor training base.

Questions of satisfying schoolchildren's need for uniforms and sports clothing, footwear and trade, consumer, and medical services must be studied. After the elaboration of the plan for such measures, secretaries and all members of the Central Committee Bureau must actively set about implementing them. Naturally, complex tasks face us, but we must resolve them, and the sooner the better.

Comrades! The CPSU Central Committee April (1984) Plenum stressed that the implementation of the school reform is the concern of all the people, but the key figure is the teacher. Much that is good has been said about our teachers recently. The basic guidelines for reform clearly define teachers' tasks and measures to improve their training and retraining, and the unprecedentedly high demands made on those who teach are emphasized. I would like to discuss just two questions: that of increasing the teacher's role and authority, and that of training teaching recruits.

The basic guidelines for reform provide for the expansion of the practice of moral encouragement and material incentives for teachers. The date 1 September is declared a nationwide holiday -- Knowledge Day; teacher and other workers in public education will in the future be awarded the Order of Labor Glory.

The appropriate organs are instructed to adopt the necessary measures to maintain teacher cadres, reduce their turnover, and to display constant concern for improving working and living conditions and granting them housing.

The graduated increase in wages for public education workers will begin 1 September this year. Teachers' average monthly wage will increase by approximately 35 percent.

Party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and soviets of people's deputies face the task of everywhere putting into practice the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the session of the country's Supreme Soviet. The vast majority of the republic's 100,000-strong army of teachers have earned every kind of concern and attention. They are real masters of the teacher's trade, selflessly devoted to their work.

It is necessary to do everything possible to help teachers improve their housing conditions, municipal and medical services, and to be exceptionally attentive toward their needs and requirements. It is necessary to use every means -- including the mass media -- to propagandize and disseminate the experience of the best people. It is necessary to always remember the tremendous educational force of the teacher's personal example. Today I would like to report to the party aktiv meeting that many comrades propose instituting the title "People's Teacher of the Georgian SSR." In this connection, it will, of course, be correct for the repubic's Supreme Soviet Presidium to examine this issue. At the same time, we must ensure that all the republic's working people and schoolchildren know about every People's Teacher.

We are firmly, absolutely convinced that workers in the republic's public education will respond to the tremendous concern and attention of the party, government, and Comrade K.U. Chernenko personally with inspired, selfless labor. This was well said by Tbilisi teacher Ivetta Lagidze, a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, from the lofty Kremlin platform.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum and the session of the country's Supreme Soviet stressed the exceptional importance of the influence of teaching collectives on molding the teacher's personality. On this basis, gorkoms, raykoms, and soviet ispolkoms must step up their attention toward the activity of teaching collectives and their primary party organizations.

Tbilisi Gorkom did well when it discussed the work of the leadership and party organizations of the No's 161 and 98 secondary schools in creating a sound moral and psychological climate, strengthening discipline, improving the quality of teaching, and stepping up the Komsomol's influence on all school life, and when it recommended that their positive experience be disseminated in all the city's schools. Increasing the proportion of party members and involving young teachers in serious public work is also the concern of gorkoms and raykoms.

Under the developed socialist society, special significance is attached to the close interconnection and continuity of all components of public education, including higher education. In particular, important tasks are set in the sphere of training highly qualified teacher cadres with higher education. Much has been done in this respect, but much also remains to be done.

The Gosplan, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education must urgently determine the republic's real additional requirement for teacher cadres. It can already be said that we should increase the output of teachers for preschool institutions, initial classes in secondary schools, math teachers capable of teaching students using computer technology, and aesthetics teachers.

The question of training teachers of general technical disciplines and labor, and engineering teaching cadres, capable of implementing the process of labor training under production conditions, is acute; the question of supplying rural schools with these specialists should be studied particularly. Here, as in other reform matters, much depends on the republic's Gosplan.

Of course, it is evidently not enough to train engineering teaching cadres in only two specialties at the V.I. Lenin State Teaching Institute, as is now done. We cannot help but agree with the proposal of the republic's Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education and the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, supported, as we know, by the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, to open a branch of the Sverdlovsk Engineering Teaching Institute in Tbilisi. We have the necessary material and technical base and the appropriate teaching cadres. The resolution of this issue must be speeded up.

The universities' role in training teaching cadres with higher qualifications should be stepped up; it is also necessary to increase the universities' assistance to teaching VUZes in organizing work in teaching methodology and scientific research.

It is necessary to significantly extend the admission of young people to teaching specialities and organize the training of future teachers in such a way as to ensure that they are familiar with production economics, computer technology, and the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution in general. I will not mention the problem of educating the educators.

In the matter of educating and improving the qualifications of teachers, it is necessary to approach the contribution of our educational scholars, and indeed scholars in general, in a different way, with exactingness of a higher order.

The teaching institute now headed by the well-known scholar Professor Sh.A. Amonashvili, should concern itself most seriously with the selection and placement of cadres and the education of highly qualified research specialists from among creative, talented practicing teachers. It is they who must be brought into postgraduate studies and positions as scientific staffers.

The institute must overcome the tendency to be concerned with trivial subjects and must introduce into practice comprehensive, collective research involving specialists from related sciences and practicing teachers. It is necessary to seek new forms and methods of research and to deepen and continue justified experiments.

This also fully applies to VUZes' departments of special teaching methods, which do virtually no experimental work in schools and are to some degree divorced from school life, except for teaching practice.

In connection with the reform, the Academy of Sciences institutes of psychology, philosophy, economy, and law, and other scientific research institutions must define their place. Scientists' contacts with schools must be comprehensive and systemacic.

Comrade G.A. Aliyev's report at the Supreme Soviet session stressed: "The reform presupposes the most careful consideration of the specific requirements of each nation and ethnic group in our country in the sphere of education and culture." The scientists should help us to clearly define these requirements for our whole multinational republic, its regions, and autonomous formations.

A few words about the time scale for implementing the reform: We have already said that the problems of strengthening the material and technical base of general educational, vocational and technical schools, and other educational institutions can only be resolved gradually, by stages. We must embark, however, on concrete measures to improve the training and education process, and the labor training and vocational guidance of students, and on the implementation of a number of other requirements of the reform at once. This also applies to preparations for transition to the new structure of general educational schools with an 11-year term of education.

Tasks arise from this regarding a major restructuring of the work of the Ministry of Education, the State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, and their directorates, departments, and local organs. As is known, with a view to improving the coordination of the efforts of various components of the training and education system, it is deemed expedient to create interdepartmental commissions everywhere -- from the Council of Ministers down to rayispolkoms. It is necessary to ensure that they really function effectively.

The structure of public education departments is improving. The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers have adopted resolutions which, alongside the resolution of other issues, strengthen the organizational basis of the reform.

The reform's practical implementation depends to a great extent on efficient, harmonious work by organs governing education and training processes and on their active, principled, and self-critical approach to the task.

In light of today's major discussion of the soviets of people's deputies, it will evidently suffice to say that it is first and foremost their concern to improve the management of education, reinforce educational institutions with cadres, create the necessary conditions for them, and coordinate the activity of national economic facilities as regards schoolchildren's labor education and the strengthening of the material and technical base for education.

The reform decisions point out that questions of school restructuring affect every single organ and every single component in the system of state and economic management. Every -- I repeat, every -- ministry, department, association, and enterprise, every kolkhoz and sovkhoz, must have its own program for participation in this cause of the whole people and the whole state. Here, initiative, enterprises, and the desire not to be confined within the sometimes formal bounds of numerous directives, can only be encouraged.

The broadest opportunities and very great duties -- that is how we can characterize the role of trade union organs and organizations in implementing the basic guidelines for school reform.

Today our Komsomol has no task more important, no party mission more important, than to promote the reform's implementation. Ensuring a militant, creative mood in young men and women, eradicating conventionalism and boredom in the work of Komsomol organizations and Pioneer groups at schools, improving the activity of Pioneer leaders, establishing close ties between the Komsomol organizations of schools, vocational and technical schools, VUZes, and labor and army collectives, involving scientific and creative young people in the reform's affairs -- that is far from a complete list of our Lenin Komsomol's tasks and concerns.

The Georgian Komsomol Central Committee and Komsomol committees must face up still more to specific issues, step up the struggle against formalism, and strive to ensure unity of word and deed.

Obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, primary party organizations, and all Communists must constantly keep their fingers on the pulse of the school reform. There is not, and cannot be, any trivial matter in the cause of the education and ideological, moral, international-patriotic, and labor upbringing of young people.

Communists have always drawn strength from their orientation toward tomorrow. Schools -- general educational, vocational, and technical -- must become a living, acting model of our society's tomorrow. It is schools which must take into account tomorrow's level of production forces, prepare people for appropriate production relations, and teach them tomorrow's norms of public life. The party committee and party organization can have no greater concern than this!

Party committees must direct their full attention to school affairs, concern themselves more profoundly and competently with cadre questions, study public opinion, and enhance the responsibility of Communist teachers for the end results of work and the crystalline purity of the teachers' ranks.

The school reform is a process of profound and, I would say, revolutionary transformation in training and education. These radical changes must be based on the further development of our economy, our national economy. After all, we will need about R1 billion to create a full material base for the reform. Where can this be found, if not in the national economy, at enterprises, on kolkhozes and sovkhozes?

Go to the best enterprises of Tbilisi and Kutaisi, Rustavi, Chiatura, and Tskhinvali, the villages of Kakhati and Natanebi, Pirveli, Bediya, and Bobokvati, Dzeveri and Chumlaki, and you will see that where plants and farms are highly profitable and make money, there is no problem about general educational, vocational, and technical schools, or preschool and nonschool institutions.

It is the duty of party committees and party organizations to ensure that every working person, every parent, every teacher, and every student clearly grasps the very close relationship between today's state of affairs in the economy and tomorrow's level of culture and education. That is why our economic plans are creative plans, that is why the struggle to fulfill and overfulfill them is a struggle for tomorrow, and for the flourishing of our schools!

There is no doubt that, as in any nationwide cause, the republic's Communists will be in the vanguard of the new upsurge in the level of education, general culture, professional qualifications, and civil activeness of the young generation, and will do everything possible to ensure the smooth running of this -- to use Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's inspired phrase -- law of social progress!

REPORT FROM BORDER POST WHERE CHERNENKO SERVED

PM171351 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 15 May 1984 in its First Edition carries on page 6 a 1,300-word article entitled "Khorgos Border Post: We Serve the Soviet Union!" by Major P. Mashkovets and Yu. Shaporev, datelined the Red Banner Eastern Border District.

The article, which is pegged to the 60th anniversary of the Khorgos border post, related that "A party conference in February 1932 noted that Communists engaged in combat operations to eliminate bandit and anti-Soviet acts had shown high Communist awareness, selfless devotion to the party, and great steadfastness. Among the delegates to that conference was the secretary of the 'Khorgos' border post party organization, Konstantin Ulstinovich Chernenko. A vase and books bearing K.U. Chernenko's inscription which he presented during his visit to the border post in 1979 are carefully preserved at the post."

The article then speaks of the "unbroken chain of heroic deeds going back to the difficult thirties" and of the qualities required of border guards -- "vigilance, logical thought, quick-wittedness, and the ability to keep one's head in any situation." The article then continues: "'Once,' the border post chief, Senior Lieutenant S. Belan said, 'an alert squad went out to a spot where the signaling system had been activated. They checked out the surveillance zone: the tracks of three boars were clearly visible. Everything would appear to have been normal, since frontiers do not exist for boars. And then Sergeant Oleg Azgikhin noticed that one of the tracks was slightly different from the rest. On looking more carefully, he ventured that they were not boar tracks. They gradually became convinced on making a closer examination of the area that an intruder had passed through.

"No doubts remained: 'If someone has crossed over to our side using stealth and cunning, that means he is up to no good. Within 20 minutes the uninvited guest was apprehended...'"

The article then looks at the border guards' training and comments on the "marvelous training facilities created at the border post." The authors conclude by saying that "... On returning from the border post we were received by Lieutenant General V.S. Donskov, chief of the Red Banner Eastern Border District troops, who said:

"'The fact that K.U. Chernenko served in one of our border posts in the thirties is an object of particular pride for the district's border guards. The personnel regard their service as a mark of the motherland's great trust in them.'"

SCIENTISTS DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF ALCOHOLISM

PM171500 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 17 May 1984 in its Morning Edition publishes under the heading "To Be or... To Drink? That Is the Question," a 3,500-word report from Novosibirsk by special correspondent R. Armeyev and own correspondent A. Illarionov which states that "a 'sobriety' club (its precise name is still being decided) has been organized in Novosibirsk's Sovetskiy Rayon, in the renowned Akademgrorodok and its initiators have been doctors and candidates of sciences from the academy institutes, workers and engineers from the experimental plant and special design bureau, and university students."

The bulk of the report consists of the club members' answers to the reporters' questions about the effects of alcohol on human physiology and behavior. In particular, the club members claim: "There is as yet no precise calculation of how many alcoholics and drunkards there are in our country, but it can be said without fear of exaggeration that they already number millions." The effect on the economy is also mentioned: "The damage from alcoholic drinks far exceeds the revenue from their sale."

The report goes on to cite the scientists' commments on French research into several generations of alcoholic families and then quotes the remarks of individually named members of the newly formed club. In particular, Ye. Grazhdannikov, a scientific assistant at the Institute of History, Philology, and Philosophy, is quoted as saying: "The time has come to use the efforts of scientists in various branches of science to develop the concept of an alcohol-free culture."

BRIEFS

RYAZAN OBLAST PARTY MEETING -- A plenum of the Ryazan Oblast party committee today disucssed the April plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and tasks ensuing from its decisions and Comrade Chernenko's speech. In the report and speeches it was noted that Communists and working people of the oblast are directing all their strength, energy and knowledge to successful fulfillment of the tasks of this year and the 5-year plan as a whole. Industry has fulfilled ahead of schedule the plan for the first 4 months for marketing of commodity output and production of major manufactures, and labor productivity is growing. Workers of the agro-industrial complex are completing spring fieldwork. At the same time it was stressed that the growing scales of economic and cultural construction require a further enhancement of efficiency, organization and accuracy in work. The plenum mapped out specific measures for implementing the main directions of the reform of general education and vocational schools in the oblast. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 15 May 84 LD]

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPORTIONALITY VIEWED

PM181448 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 84 First Edition pp 2, 3

[Academician A. Yefimov article under the rubric "Questions of Theory": "The Economy: Proportionality and Balance" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] "The steady growth of the people's prosperity has been and remains an immutable program requirement of the CPSU. Hence, the task which is of paramount importance: to create a highly efficient economy and lay the foundations for the increasingly full satisfaction of the material and spiritual requirements of Soviet people and for the growth of our state's might," Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted at a session of the CPSU Central Committee commission for drafting the new edition of the CPSU Program.

The Soviet economy is now at such a stage, and the tasks facing it in the immediate and the more distant future are so ambitious and multifaceted, that there is no other way to resolve the fundamental problems of the further improvement of social production than through its consistent and all-embracing intensification. This is the way that has been substantiated and is being put into practice by the party's economic strategy. The next, 12th, 5-Year Plan must be the 5-year plan of a decisive breakthrough in the intensification of all sectors of our national economy, the CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Plenum noted.

Thus the eighties are the period of significant structural advances, reorganization, and technical modernization in the economy with a view to ensuring its most progressive proportionality, which means greater efficiency.

It is well known that proportionality of the economy presupposes the internal balance of production and its conformity with the structure of social demands.

The need to balance and coordinate as closely as possible the growing social demands, and society's economic potential and resources confronts planning and economic organs and the working people's collectives with the task of making the most efficient use of the production, scientific, and technical potential created in our country, safeguardin the social product, incessantly modernizing the production apparatus, improving the quality of production, and perfecting its structure. This demand was raised with the utmost urgency in the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and in special party and government resolutions.

In cases where the structure and composition of production do not fully meet social demands, not every expansion of reproduction necessarily helps develop the necessary proportions. Proportionality can be ensured in a socialist economy first, only on the basis of comprehensive research into the objective trends in the changing structure of the social product and its material links, and, second, only by embodying national economic proportions in specific quantitative relations between sectors and within them, by bringing plan targets to each enterprise and work position, and by ensuring the unconditional fulfillment of these targets. This last is especially important, since the frustration of plans and breaches of contractural obligations essentially negate all the vast work that has been done to balance the economy's development.

Balancing the national economy in all its aspects (structure, factors, time) is an essential, general economic precondition of intensification. The existence of disproportions disrupts smooth production, slows down economic growth rates, and leads to a reduction in the efficiency of resource utilization.

This is why the 26th CPSU Congress demanded the attainment of greater interconnection in the development of extracting and processing industries and the implementation of measures to achieve balance between existing and emerging work positions and labor resources.

What are the factors of proportional and balanced development of the national economy which should be examined before any others, and what is their influence on the state of the economic base?

When evaluating structural advances we first have to resolve the question of the extent to which society is contributing toward the satisfaction of its members' currency demands by increasing the national income consumption fund, and the extent to which resources are allocated from the accumulations fund for the purpose of developing the material and technical base so as to ensure the future growth of people's prosperity.

THE CORRELATION BETWEEN CONSUMPTION AND ACCUMULATION EXERTS AN ENORMOUS INFLUENCE ON THE GROWTH RATE OF INDIVIDUAL SECTORS AND ON INTER-SECTOR PROPORTIONS IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY. Accumulation, depending on its distribution, affects (and quite actively, at that) not only the first subdivision of the national economy (production of the means of production) but also the second (production of the objects of consumption). Nevertheless, all else being equal, an increase in the proportion of accumulation results in accelerated growth of the sectors producing the means of production, while an increase in the share of the consumption in the national income results in growth of the production of the objects of consumption.

The accelerated development of the first subdivision is a necessary condition for the active formation of a qualitatively new technical base of production and for the process of replacing manual labor by mechanical labor.

Scientific and technical progress and profound structural advances create objective opportunities to bring considerably closer together the growth rates of the first and second subdivisions of social production and, during certain periods, even to develop the second subdivision preferentially while maintaining stable economic growth rates. This opportunity becomes reality when technological progress ensures faster growth of the capacity and productivity of machines by comparison with the increase in the prime costs of their production, as well as labor productivity growth which outstrips the increase in the production assets available to labor. The introduction of new machinery and technologies makes it possible to reduce the share of expenditure of raw and other materials; traditional materials are replaced by new and more economical ones.

In addition, the correlation between the growth rates and volumes of the most important production sectors and spheres is also very important.

STEADY GROWTH IN INDUSTRY'S SHARE IN THE GROSS SOCIAL PRODUCT IS TYPICAL OF THE SOVIET ECONOMY: whereas in 1965 this share was 59 percent, by 1982 it had risen to 65 percent. The sector structure not only determines each sector's position in the creation of the national product, but also makes it possible to judge the extent of the social division of labor.

In the practice of planning and analyzing economic life, the effectivenss of structural advances is evaluated for each group of sectors producing interchangeable output; for example, the fuel and energy complex. Particular consideration is given to changes in the proportion of the whole which their output represents. In 1965-1982, for instance, the proportion of the total volume of industrial production represented by the fuel and energy complex fell from 14.4 percent in 1965 to 11.9 percent in 1982, while sectors producing components of fixed production capital increased their share correspondingly from 14.1 to 25.4 percent.

But this information is not sufficient for structuring the national economic plans. More detailed indicators of the internal structure of sectors are needed.

Science and practical experience have identified a number of general laws governing structural advances in material production. Thus, in almost all industrially developed countries, the growth rate of the processing sectors' output outstrips the average rates of industry's development as a whole. The falling share of extracting sectors in the gross industrial output of the USSR is the consequence of technological progress, which ensures the more efficient use of raw and other materials. Of course, the fact that these sectors have reached a stage in their development which it is economically unexpected to "overstep" also has its effect.

The present stage of the scientific and technical revolution is characterized by THE PREFERENTIAL GROWTH OF ELECTRONICS, INSTRUMENT MAKING, ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY, PRODUCTION OF HIGH QUALITY MATERIALS, CHEMICAL AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY, ROBOTICS, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY. The task of planning and economic organs, in determining the economy's sector structure in the long term, is to give proper consideration to such trends.

The influence of advances in sector structure on the efficiency of social production is exerted in two directions. On the one hand, the economy's efficiency will grow if the national economy's sectors which have low output-capital and output-labor ratios develop at rates which are faster than the growth rate of the economy as a whole. This premise is correct if the structural advances correspond to society's requirements. On the other hand, production efficiency will also grow when there is rapid growth of those sectors which exert an active influence on labor productivity and the capital-labor ratio in other sectors.

The promotion of MATERIAL-SAVING AND ENERGY-SAVING TRENDS IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS is highly important at the present stage of our economy's development. Calculations show that expenditure on measures to save material resources is 2-4 times lower than expenditure on extracting the equivalent quantity of national raw material. A reduction of just 1 percent in materials consumed in producing the country's output is today equivalent to an increase in national income of more than R7 billion. Scientific and technical progress thus creates preconditions for transferring the entire economy to a qualitatively new state -- the state of having a dynamic structure and growth in the end product while reducing the additional growth of primary resources.

Great opportunities to save fuel and raw material resources and substitute other types for those that are in shortest supply and are provided by improvements in the structure of production. For example, the increase in electricity generation at AESes and GESes planned for the 11th 5-Year Plan will ensure a saving of 90 million metric tons of fossil fuels. The national economy's accelerated electrification will be accompanied by a significant growth in the share of coal, gas, and nuclear power in electricity generation and a fall in the consumption of petroleum products for this purpose.

The trend toward reducing the share of raw materials in the production of industrial output is contradictory in nature. Objective factors leading to an increase in the gross output of the extracting industries for the same volume of end product produced from this raw material include, for example, the exploitation of poor quality raw materials (poor ores, poor quality coal), and the more thorough primary processing of raw materials by the extracting sectors (ore and coal enriching, caking, briquetting, and so on). Furthermore, the industrial sectors extracting and processing natural raw materials are largely influenced in the efficiency of raw materials utilization by the extent to which their useful components are extracted, which depends considerably on the combination of various types of production.

The comprehensive utilization of raw materials makes it possible to increase the end product yield per unit of material resources with relatively low expenditure of capital investment and labor resources, thus improving production efficiency indicators.

In addition to the substantial growth in the cost of simple reproductions, compensation for the worsening conditions encountered in the extraction of natural raw materials and fuel, and the renovation of the existing production apparatus on the basis of new technology, the intensification of the economy makes it necessary to accelerate the development of the economy's investment base -- MACHINE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION, AND THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS COMPLEX.

Improving the structure of the machine building complex should ensure a rise in the technological standard of machine building itself, the improvement of castings production, the creation of a technically developed industry of inter-sector production units, and the renewal of the equipment pool. On this basis a considerable improvement in the structure and and increase in the technical standard and technical-economic characteristics of the end product of machine building can be achieved.

The high rate of growth of the investment complex and the need to overcome the strain which has developed in its provision with raw material resources require a certain acceleration of the development of those sectors producing construction materials: ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, the chemical and petrochemical industries, the timber, pulp, paper, and wood processing industry, and the construction materials industry. Advances in construction materials production should give rise both to a substantial improvement in their structure in favor of progressive kinds of materials (light metals, plastics, fiberglass and other compounds and bonded structures) and to an improvement in the qualitative and structural characteristics of traditional kinds of materials, particularly in the quality and grade of metal.

The development of consumer goods production is also accompanied by progressive structural changes. The proportion of artificial and synthetic raw and semifinished materials within the raw material base of light industry in invreasing. Thus the production of chemical fibers and yarns increased by 200 percent between 1965 and 1982, whereas cotton fiber production increased by just 50 percent.

Among the most topical planning problems is the need for the detailed validation within state plans of the PROPORTION BETWEEN ALL COMPONENTS OF THE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX (including its production infrastructure and particularly the system of storage and primary processing of agricultural output) and for economic correlation between them in accordance with society's interests and the principles of socialist management. At the same time it is necessary to comprehensively improve the efficient use of the substantial material and technical resources allocated to the complex.

Strengthening the ties between industry and agriculture and improving the proportions in their development are not only of economic but also of sociopoliticial significance since they help to strengthen the alliance of the working class and the peasantry and to improve socialist production relations.

The scale and pace of scientific and technical progress depend to a great extent on planning efficiency. Resources must be concentrated in the most effective areas of scientific and technical development. Stereotyped working and too much attention to "base" problems can have the most serious consequences. Intensification makes it essential to accelerate the development of those sectors which determine scientific and technical progress and create favorable conditions for achieving the proportionality and dynamic balance of the national economy.

Targeted scientific and technical programs, included in a plan for the first time as part of the 11th 5-Year Plan, help to resolve this task.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko, speaking about long-term targeted programs and, in particular, about the comprehensive program of scientific and technical progress for 1986-2005 which was formulated long ago, noted, when addressing a session of the CPSU Central Committee commission on preparing the new edition of the CPSU Program, that better use should be made of the party Program and in checking the provisions it contains against the latest conclusions of science and against specific scientific, technical, economic, and social considerations.

The intensification of social production is indissolubly linked with the further improvement of economic structures which is reflected, for example, in the raising of the level of the concentration and specialization of production, in cooperation and combination, and in the creation of integrated economic complexes -- production associations. Production concentration, occurring as a rule on the basis of production specialization, acts as a catalyst of technical progress.

For the prompt implementation of in-depth qualitative changes in production, the need for which was indicated at the CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Plenum, it is important to ensure the mobility of the components of the economy. It is necessary to create conditions in which the economic structure can be swiftly rearranged in accordance with the dynamics of society's needs and with the character and content of the tasks being resolved. This presupposes the elaboration of comprehensive solutions in the sphere of improving the management mechanism, accelerating the development of key sectors, creating reserve capacities, and training and retraining cadres.

"With a good production manager, every ruble is quickly put into circulation and grows. In brief, it is put to work," K.U. Chernenko said at the meeting with workers at the Serp i Molot plant. An analysis of the speed of turnover of material stocks and resources shows that there are still reserves here worth billions of rubles. A trend has been noted toward the preferential growth of circulating resources in comparison with gross social product. This is the price of insufficient balance in the material and technical supply plans.

Proportionality means more than just the scientific validation and balance of the plan, it also means the strict observance of labor, plan, and state discipline at all levels of the national economy. That is why the work being done to strengthen it is so timely and important.

Scientifically validated proportionality in the economy cannot be maintained, of course, without a further improvement of the entire economic mechanism and of all forms of workers' moral and material incentives. The large-scale economic experiments now being conducted will help to ensure that we enter the 12th 5-Year Plan with a well-organized economic mechanism which enables fuller use to be made of our economic potential.

The attentive study and forecasting of the structural changes in the national economy and the adjustment of the mechanism of the planned regulation of those changes in the interests of accelerating sociaty's socioeconomic progress are the important tasks facing Soviet economic science.

NATURE CONSERVATION GROUP DISCUSSES TASKS

PM171527 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 17 May 84 p 2

[TASS report: "For the Good of Nature, in the Interests of Man; All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society Central Council Plenum"]

[Text] One of the largest mass public organizations -- the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society -- is on the eve of its 60th anniversary. Its almost 37 million-strong army of enthusiasts are striving to mark the jubilee by increasing their contribution to the nationwide cause.

The tasks of this society's organizations stemming from the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums were discussed at an expanded plenum of the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society held 16 May in Moscow in the October Hall of the House of Unions.

Main speaker V.N. Vinogradov, chairman of the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society Central Council Presidium and academician of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and other speakers demonstrated the great economic and social importance of questions linked with environmental protection and with a rational use of natural resources.

The state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1984 has allocated R1.3 billion to nature conservation measures. Particular attention is being devoted to our main wealth -- the land. Land drainage and irrigation, and antierosion and reforestation work is under way on a large scale. The scale of chemical soil reclamation is increasing, and the area of recultivated land is growing by 50 percent.

It is planned to commission major purification installations, reusable and recycled water systems, and the construction and reconstruction of new and existing gas purification and dust filtering installations. All this and much more serving the welfare of nature is in man's interest.

A broad field of activity is now open everywhere for the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society's enthusiasts, who are active assistants to the party and the government in the implementation of nature conservation policy. Specific examples of glorious patriotic initiatives, good undertakings, and instructive actions were quoted at the plenum.

But things are by no means going the way we would like everywhere. The plenum recognized the need to step up educational work with members of the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society and to improve public control over the rational use of natural resources and production waste, and over the unconditional fulfillment of nature conservation measures within plan schedules. It was recommended that a resolute struggle be declared against the departmental approach to ecology, which gives rise to irresponsible decisions leading to false economies which ultimately take the form of large and sometimes irretrievable losses.

The Central Council plenum called on the All-Russian Nature Conservancy Society's collectives and members to redouble their efforts in the noble cause of resolving nature conservation tasks.

BRYANSK FOREST FIRE STARTED BY IRRESPONSIBILITY

PM181142 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 17 May 1984 publishes on page 4 under the rubric "We Report the Details" a 1,750-work report by special correspondent N. Dombkovskiy entitled "Fiery Billow." It describes how 400 people recently fought and extinguished a forest fire on the outskirts of Bryansk.

The fire started 8 May and had almost been put out when a strong wind arose and drove the flames toward a gasoline station, a fur farm, and a chemical plant which produces drying oil, turpentine, and varnish and where thousands of tons of combustibles were stored. There reportedly was a real danger of an explosion.

The report describes how the fire was halted near the chemical plant and then goes into considerable detail about how the fur farm was saved. The fire was eventually extinguished just outside the city of Bryansk, some 100 meters from the houses, although plumes of smoke are still rising from underground peat fires.

The report continues: "The fur farm, the chemical plant, and the city were unscathed. The damage done to the national economy is estimated only at the value of the lost timber. But is that a small price?" The writer states that it is not known what caused the forest fire, which happened after a prolonged dry spell, but he claims to have seen evidence of "flagrant irresponsibility," such as piles of empty bottles in the forest, burned car tires, and branches left lying around by workers who erected a power transmission line. In addition, fires have reportedly been caused by waste dumped in the forest by various plants and factories, as well as by defective locomotives on the railroad.

QUARTERLY INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS PUBLISHED

PM171606 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 May 84 p 2

[Report by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA economy and propaganda department under the rubric "We Sum Up the Results: April": "If You Have Given Your Word, Keep It"]

[Text] The results of the fulfillment of the plan targets and socialist pledges in April and for the first 4 months of the year show that the overwhelming majority of industrial enterprise collectives have coped with them. The plan for the sale of output was exceeded by 3 percent last month and has been overfulfilled by 2 percent from the beginning of the year. The volume of output sales by comparison with January through April of last year has increased by 4.9 percent. That is more than 1 percent above the level projected in the annual plan.

The targets were also fulfilled for labor productivity growth: in the first 4 months it rose 4.6 percent in comparison with the same period last year. The majority of industrial ministries ensured an additional 1-percent increase in production. Some 96 percent of the increase in output was obtained through labor productivity growth. The target for the prime cost of output was fulfilled.

The Ministry of the Gas Industry and the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems enterprises, whose pledges were published in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, are working successfully. The gas extraction workers extracted an additional 4.2 million cubic meters of fuel while the instrument builders produced above-plan output worth R44 million compared to their pledge for the year of R50 million. These ministries' enterprises ensured above-plan labor productivity growth and an additional saving on expenditure.

The participants in the economic experiment are working successfully.

Their level of fulfillment of pledges for deliveries is above the average for industry. As a whole there are fewer enterprises and associations failing to cope with the plan for sales taking into account their contract and schedule commitments. The Ministry of the Medical Industry, the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, and the Ministry of the Gas Industry have come close to the 100-percent mark. Many enterprises of the Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, and the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming are lagging behind.

The best results for January through April were achieved by the following ministries and departments: (the first column of figures indicates the growth in production volume compared with January through April of last year, the second the increase in labor productivity, and the third the sales plan fulfillment percentage):

Ministry of Power Machine Building	108.7	110.5	102
Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry	108.6	107.2	102
Ministry of the Chemical Industry	108.1	107.8	102
Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	107.9	108.5	102
Ministry of Power and Electrification	107.7	106.6	101
Ministry of the Gas Industry	107.5	105.2	103
Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production	107.4	109.3	105
Ministry of the Medical Industry	107.4	106.8	101

Since the beginning of the year the power industry workers have generated 528 billion kwh which is 7 percent more than in the first 4 months of last year. The plan and additional targets for oil extraction for January through April were not fulfilled. The lag was mainly attributable to the Glavtyumenneftegaz fields. The Ministry of Petroleum Industry is faced with the task of accelerating the transfer of boreholes to mechanized extraction, eliminating shortcomings in the organization of their repair, and achieving the point where new fields are commissioned within the standard deadlines. Much here depends on the machine builders and on the quality of the equipment they supply to the oil workers.

We must also note the growing steadiness in the work of ferrous metallurgy. The 4-month program for the production of the main types of metal output was generally fulfilled. Some 300,000 extra metric tons of finished rolled ferrous metals and 4.5 million extra meters of steel pipe were produced. The situation regarding iron ore extraction and coke production has been corrected. However, almost one in two enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy is in arrears to its consumers.

The machine builders are increasing the production of progressive types of output, particularly facilities for mechanizing and automating labor, at preferential rates in comparison with January through April of last year, the production of industrial robots has increased by two-thirds, while the production of metal-cutting machine tools with numerical program control has increased by one-fourth, and the production of computer hardware and spare parts by 13 percent. Many types of machine building output have been produced above the plan. They include tractors, agricultural machinery, equipment for animal husbandry and fodder production, and spare parts for sowing and harvesting equipment.

The production of consumer goods is increasing. The plan for the production of cultural and consumer goods and household appliances was overfulfilled by 2 percent, but the targets are still not being completely fulfilled for the production and deliveries of necessities and items in mass demand. The enterprises of the food and meat and dairy industry achieved notable advances, and there was an improvement in the supply of foodstuffs to a number of areas of the country.

Special attention must be paid now to average daily production. In a number of ministries its increase this year is considerably lower than planned.

High socialist pledges have been adopted for this year. The results of the first 4 months convince us that, with full expenditure of effort and skilled utilization of reserves, they can be successfully fulfilled in full in all production sectors.

SCIENCE ACADEMY DISCUSSES FOOD PROGRAM

PM180948 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 84 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Science for the USSR Food Program]

[Text] A session of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium Philosophical (Methodological) Seminars Central Council has been held to discuss the socioeconomic and methodological problems of implementing the USSR Food Program. Academician Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Central Council's chairman, delivered an introductory speech to the gathering. V.K. Mesyats, USSR minister of agriculture, delivered a report entitled "The CPSU's Agrarian Policy at the Present Stage and Soviet Scientists' Tasks." Academicians A.A. Bayev and V.V. Struminskiy; A.A. Nikonov, vice president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKHNIL]; A.A. Zhuchenko, president of the Moldavian SSR Academy of Sciences; USSR Academy of Sciences corresponding members K.V. Frolov and G.V. Voropayev; VASKHNIL Academician A.A. Sozinov; and A.G. Isofyan, vice president of the Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences, took part in the discussion.

Noting the economic and sociopolitical importance of the successful implementation of the USSR Food Program, the scientists mentioned specific measures to enhance the role of science in the solution of agro-industrial tasks, to improve the interconnection and coordination of the activity of academic and departmental organizations, and to make fuller use of the systems method in implementing the Food Program. They also referred to the rational use of nature. They stressed the importance of the work of philosophical (methodological) seminars in drawing scientists' attention to agro-industrial problems and to the elaboration of the theoretical and methodological foundations for the implementation of the USSR Food Program and in providing a reasoned critique of bourgeois ideologists' attempts to falsify the CPSU's agrarian policy.

G.V. Zakharov and I.I. Skiba, CPSU Central Committee first deputy department chiefs, took part in the council's work.

SHEVARDNADZE INAUGURATES GEORGIAN GAS PIPELINE

PM171538 [Editorial Report] Tibilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 11 May carries on pages 1-2 a 3,000-word GRUZINFORM report entitled "The Unquenchable Fire of Friendship," covering a rally held in Dmanisi to inauguarate the 20 km Kazreti-Dmanisi high-pressure gas pipeline which will supply natural gas to the population and a number of enterprises and farms in the rayon. The rally was attended by "E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee," and other Georgian officials.

"Warmly welcomed by those present, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze addressed the rally." At the end of the rally, **Shevardnadze cut the inaugural ribbon.**

SOVKHOZ LEADERS CALL FOR FLEXIBLE PRICING POLICY

PM180933 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 17 May 84 p 2

[Article by V. Bannikov, director of Zhuravlevskiy Sovkhoz, and B. Duyusov, chief economist of Zhuravlevskiy Sovkhoz: "A Factor Of Stability. Competent Economic Thinking and Action" -- first paragraph is SELSKAYA ZHIZN introduction]

[Text] The importance of more effective incentives for labor productivity growth, the introduction of financial autonomy, and the correct correlation between the collective's real labor contribution and the wages fund was the subject of the article "Work and Earnings" (SELSKAYA ZHIZN 8 July 1983) and subsequent items published by the newspaper. This subject continues to perturb our readers. This latest article is published today as part of the debate on the problem.

Tselinograd Oblast -- The team stability is used in shipbuilding. It denotes a ship's ability to maintain equilibrium under any sea conditions. Of all the ship's merits, this one is fundamental. Without it, a ship is not a ship.

We would not be stretching the point too far if we applied the very same yardstick to the rural economy. This vessel cannot expect calm seas all the time, either. Is its "stability" sufficiently high? It is well known that, at present, only poultry factories, farms operating on irrigated land, green house combines, and major hog-breeding complexes, -- in other words enterprises protected from climatic adversities by reliable roofs, artificial rain, and guaranteed feed supplies from the state granaries -- can sail confidently through all storms and droughts. But the slightest of waves can capsize most farms.

Here are the financial results of our sovkhoz's work in the last 6 years. Its average annual profit has been R564,700. Seemingly not too bad. This, however, does not give a true impression of the sovkhoz economy's reliability. In the high-yield year of 1978 we had a net income of almost R2 million, while the result in the drought year of 1982 was a loss of R364,000. We can thus see that the economy was pitching and yawing very severely and it was not possible to maintain its equilibrium.

Let us now look at the volume of output sales. The difference in gross sovkhoz earnings between 1979 and 1982, for example, was R1.4 million, or 34 percent. However, the Zhuravlevskiy Sovkhoz, even though it is not a model of stability, is by no means an average farm in this respect. This can be seen from the fact in the same period for the oblast as a whole the difference in volume of gross agricultural output reached 65 percent and that in profits over 200 percent.

The higher purchase prices and the supplementary payments for low-profitability farms which were introduced last year have made it possible to increase the income of sovkhozes and kolkhozes. This is very good. But you cannot eliminate fluctuations in the volume of sales by increasing prices.

The instability of income and profitability is not good. This is clear to everyone. It is much more advantageous for the sake of systematically developing production to receive profits of R500,000 each year instead of R2 million once every 4 years. We are not taking the psychological factor into consideration. Yet why not do so? Sharp differences in the annual results of a farm's work certainly do not mean that one year the collective has worked all out, while the next it has been taking things easy. Nothing of the sort; in a poor year people sometimes expend more effort. This is why they see fluctuations in the results of their work as a customary and explicable injustice, but an injustice nevertheless. And this, of course, does not mobilize anyone.

It is not impossible that some people may suspect that we are being crafty. Don't we know that no matter how much our ship may founder, it will still not be allowed to sink? The state will take over all our costs, cover all our losses, and give us our future livelihood. So there is no need for any special concern. There are farms out there which have been kept afloat for decades now only thanks to disinterested assistance from the state budget.

Yes, the state provides material guarantees that in any year any collective and every working person can be assured of their future. In any case, the sovkhoz wages fund is reliably protected against the effect of any calamity. The guarantee of steady earnings is undoubtedly a tremendous social merit of the economy. Nevertheless, there is a "but" here. While protecting wages against the effect of unexpected falls that are beyond the collective's control, we have at the same time freed it of dependence on labor productivity. In our view, this was convincingly said in A. Seleznev's article "Work and Earnings" (SELSKAYA ZHIZN 8 July 1983) and other items published on the subject.

To put it frankly, there is little that is good here. Wages are, after all, the main material incentive. And in order to stimulate high end results, they should be funded from money earned by the farm from the sale of output. But how can this be achieved under the present instability of earnings? A. Seleznev proposed the "savings book method". In good years the sovkhoz creates a reserve for a "rainy day" and thus assures relatively stable wages. This would probably be acceptable if it were only matter of labor remuneration. But there is more.

One of the authors of these lines was fortunate enough to take part in the All-Union Economic Conference on Agro-Industrial Complex Problems. It gave much food for thought to rural inhabitants and forced them to look at amny things in a new fashion. One can, for example, understand the persistence with which the conference spoke of the need to introduce financial autonomy as soon as possible. The party rightly sees it as a powerful means of boosting the rural economy. The conference leveled pointed and weighty reproaches at leaders and specialists, many of whom have a rather cool attitude toward financial autonomy. Yes, some of them are so used to firm wages, guaranteed capital investments, and non-repayable credits that financial autonomy is in no way to their liking. The time has obviously come to seriously correct such people.

At the same time, let us think seriously: is it possible to introduce complete financial autonomy and complete economic self-sufficiency [samookupayemost] for farms and expect their development to be financed by their own incomes when these incomes very by a factor of 1.2-1.5 times or more from year to year and when sovkhozes swing from profits running into millions to losses running into millions? No, under such circumstances financial autonomy will remain just wishful thinking. At present we are introducing it in the primary link of production -- teams and livestock units. In our sovkhoz, for example, all the tractor and field cultivation teams have transferred to contract work. This is, without exaggeration, a great accomplishment. It is, however, no secret that the instability of financial and economic results throws financial autonomy into a turmoil even at that level.

So what is the conclusion to be drawn? Production stability must certainly be improved. This depends on the standards of economic management, the flexibility of our economic thinking, and ultimately on elementary discipline and thriftiness. When the series of dry summers started and the earnings from grain started to fall sharply, we, for example, found a way to increase significantly the output of livestock products and thus halt the fall in gross incomes.

But we still look at things soberly: Neither today, nor tomorrow can we insure sovkhoz production fully against possible failures. This means that additional measures have to be taken to stabilize the farm's annual income. What exactly are they?

We think that an important role here has to be played by the effective instrument of price formation. Its competent application under the conditions of planned management of the economy is a powerful means of enhancing the economic stability of production.

What specifically are we talking about? Let us look at practice. In the best of the last few years the sovkhoz harvested 17.8 quintals of grain per hectare, and in the worst, 9.4 quintals. Almost a 100-percent difference. The prime costs of output showed a similar difference. And yet the grain purchase price was the same in both years. The wheat price, for example, was R9.60 per quintal. Is this logical? Hardly. It would have been more equitable if, in the first case, we had been paid less, R7 per quintal for example, and in the second case more -- R11-12 per quintal. In other words, what we have in mind is price regulation according to the volume of output sold in a given year.

There is nothing new in this idea. It is, after all, well known that the more output is offered to the purchaser, the more cheaply he values it. The opposite also applies.

There is, probably, no special difficulty about such flexible price maneuvering. The anticipated procurement levels for the main types of output for the country as a whole and for individual zones are known to planning and financial bodies long before the time comes to pay for them. The money which the state can pay to kolkhozes and sovkhozes is allocated even earlier. All you have to do is divide one by the other, introduce a corrective coefficient, and "allocate" prices among specific price zones. It is, of course, by no means essential that prices accurately mimic the fluctuations in harvest yields and productivity. This could even be harmful. But in any case, in any given year they must ensure that the farms are reimbursed for the socially necessary expenditure incurred to produce their output. Otherwide, how can we talk about financial auto-autonomy?

These words do not contain a veiled hint that additional financial resources should be channeled into agriculture. On the contrary, we are talking about savings in financial resources. What we are talking about is covering the socially necessary and objectively unavoidable expenditure, as opposed to the present situation when the state takes over all our costs and covers any expenditure. Suppose that a sovkhoz spends R600-700 per quintal on the production of beef (and such cases do exist) -- the Gosbank will anyhow reimburse its excessive costs. Insofar as this compensation is received by the sovkhoz not as production earnings but as a state gift, it does not provide any incentive for economies in expenditure.

Let us examine another question that may be asked. Will these "floating" prices not be some kind of disincentive? All of a sudden someone may think: the less output there is, the more they will pay us for it -- so there is no incentive to produce more? Hardly anyone would "think" like that. No matter what the prices may be, it makes no difference: Whoever sells more will earn more; whoever has higher harvest yields, milk yields, and weight gains will also have higher profitability. Thus, none of the incentives suffers. After all, let us also look impartially at the present situation. There are many years when people on farms know in advance that a given product will be unprofitable. Does this stimulate production?

To put it briefly, the stability of financial and economic indicators seems to us such an important factor precisely because it makes it possible to carry on producing calmly, without peaks and troughs, to steadily accumulate and expend the economic incentive funds, to strengthen the prestige and effect of the indicators of prime costs, profits, labor productivity, and wage costs per unit of output, and thus to lay the foundations for complete financial autonomy. This method alone is, of course, incapable of solving all the problems, but it does seem to be a very powerful method. Maybe an experiment should be conducted and the option proposed by us tried initially in one or two regions. Afterwards its results could be put to broad practical use.

RSFSR SOWING CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORTED

PM171431 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 May 84 First Edition p 1

[M. Nivin "Fieldwork Diary": "The Main Thing Is Quality"]

[Excerpts] By 14 May, according to the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration's figures, (?46.9) million hectares of spring crops, or 55.7 percent of the plan, had been sown, including 30.4 million hectares of grain and pulse crops (excluding corn).

Some 842,000 hectares of potatoes had been sown.

Some 425,000 hectares of sugar beets had been planted.

And 300,000 hectares of vegetables had been sown or planted.

The sowing of early grain crops has been completed on farms in the North Caucasus and in the republic's Central Region. The sowing work front has crossed the Urals and is making rapid progress into parts of Western Siberia. The seed drills have gone into the fields in the Altay Kray. The weather is helping arable farmers and they, in turn, are striving to obtain the maximum return from each fine hour. The past week has been the largest increase in the sown area -- over 12 million hectares -- since the campaign began.

Now is the best time to sow hulled crops. However, this work has not begun in a well organized way everywhere. Striking contrasts are to be seen even in adjacent oblasts. Thus, farms in Ryazan Oblast have sown 80 percent of the planned area of hulled crops, whereas in Orel Oblast the figure is a mere 12 percent. In the Central Chernozem Zone only 58,200 hectares of buckwheat has been sown out of a total of 114,000 hectares. The backlog will inevitably lead to haste and thus to various mistakes in the fields.

It is now the peak time for the RSFSR's potato growers. The largest areas of "second bread" are in Bryansk Oblast -- 115,000 hectares -- and Ryazan and Gorkiy Oblasts -- with 93,000 and 9,000 hectares respectively.

The situation taking shape in the corn plantations is generally favorable. Some 44.7 percent of the allotted area of corn has been sown, including 91 percent of the area in Krasnodar Kray, 79 percent of the area in Stavropol Kray, and 62 percent of the area in Rostov Oblast. The corn sowing is in full swing in the Central Chernozem Zone and the Non-Chernozem Zone.

The spring work is still gathering pace and the cutting of grasses has already begun in southern areas. The volume and pace of agricultural work are increasing with each passing day.

ARCTIC RESEARCHERS RECEIVE FREIGHT BY PARACHUTE

PM171310 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 84 First Edition p 2

[Special correspondent A. Androshin dispatch under the rubric "From the Scene of the Event": Parachutes Above the Ice Floe"]

[Text] Arctic Ocean -- I am sending this article from the ice floe on which the North Pole-27 drifting station is being set up. It is here, 370 km northeast of Zhokhov Island, that a group of parachutists on board two IL-76 transports from Pevek recently made a successful hop.

A tractor and other freight essential to the polar workers will reach the future North Pole station by the same unconventional means. The group hop was carried out in accordance with the program of the experiment organized by the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control with the assistance of DOSAAF sportsmen which is being conducted at present in the Arctic within the framework of the Arctic and Antarctic Scientific Research Institute's "North-36" high latitude aerial expedition.

It is planned to study the possibility of using parachute systems in the organization of drifting stations in the Arctic, the delivery of bulky freight, and the performance of search and rescue operations. For 2 hours the sky above the ice floe was dotted with red, blue, and green parachutes. The heavy airliners flew over the polar workers' huts several times before first the tractor, supported by five large parachutes, and then all the members of the unusual landing group dropped smoothly into the target zone.

The group, headed by USSR Honored Master of Parachuting A. Sidorenko, consisted of experienced sportsmen and members of DOSAAF air sports clubs from various cities in the USSR. Many of them have a number of successful jumps to their credit in the mountains, into vocano craters, and into the taiga when it was on fire. The guests received a warm reception on the ice from the polar workers headed by Yu. Tikhonov, the station chief, and S. Kessel, leader of the "North-36" high latitude aerial expedition. The day before, this group of parachutists and airmen had successfully completed an operation to drop 120 barrels of diesel fuel to the "North Pole-26" station drifting 1,200 km northeast of Zhokhov Island.

WEATHER MANIPULATION FOR MILITARY AIMS DENIED

LD181122 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 17 May 84

[From the "Science and Engineering" program]

[Text] We have a letter to answer now from Professor (Brian Sharp) in (Custer) Valley, California, and I'll discuss it with our sciences correspondent Boris Belitskiy.

Are you, Professor (Sharp) asks, disturbing the weather in various parts of the world by diverting the jet stream with extremely low frequency radio waves? And the professor encloses a clipping from a newspaper called SPOTLIGHT, which makes such an allegation.

[Belitskiy] You know, Professor (Sharp), even Karl Marx in his day felt compelled to ridicule the way in which the communists, so few and far between at the time, were being blamed by the press for everything untoward that happened anywhere in the world, be it a plague, tornado or crop failure. Today, blaming the Soviets has become a favorite pastime with the Western media, whatever trouble hits any spot in the world.

[Announcer] Still, Boris, what about this particular charge?

[Belitskiy] In the clipping enclosed in Professor (Sharp's) letter, the newspaper SPOTLIGHT declares that freak worldwide weather is a result of Soviet manipulation. Well, such manipulation would amount to meteorological warfare, a form of environmental warfare. The only country that has ever stooped to this kind of warfare is the United States which, during the Vietnam war, resorted to widespread chemical defoliation of Vietnam's jungles and attempted, unsuccessfully for that matter, to alter rainfall patterns in a bid to burst Vietnam's dams and cause other damage.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, has worked consistently to have all forms of environmental or geophysical warfare outlawed. In the mid-seventies, the USSR submitted a draft convention to this effect to the United Nations General Assembly. This was important because even then the Pentagon was working on plans to use space facilities for such warfare. The Soviet-initiated draft was approved by an overwhelming majority of the General Assembly, and exactly 7 years ago on 18th May 1977 the convention was signed in Geneva by 34 nations, including the Soviet Union and the United States. This prevented an extension of the arms race into the use of natural forces and created a legal framework for assuring that weather and climate modification, specifically, would not be used for military or other hostile purposes.

[Announcer] And what about peaceful purposes?

[Belitskiy] Well, that's a different matter altogether, and it's not banned. Soviet scientists, for example, are working on weather modification techniques for purposes such as the prevention of hailstorms, the dispersal of storm clouds generally, and inducing rain when it's badly needed. In some experiments they have achieved cloud dispersal on an area of 5,000 or 6,000 square miles.

[Announcer] The clipping and letter contain reference to diverting the jet stream. Could you explain that, Boris?

[Belitskiy] Well the jet stream is a narrow band of winds at high altitudes, with speeds of 50-60 knots. There are, in fact, several regions of jet streams in the world and some of them associated with the polar front are highly variable. This is because they are-affected by-thermal gradients and other atmospheric phenomenon. That, together with the El Chichon volcanic eruption, could well have been responsible for a lot of freak weather lately. At the same time, the energy of the jet stream is so colossal that it's of course pure science fiction to suggest it could be diverted by some country at the present stage of technological development. Moreover, even if this could be done, the result would be quite unpredictable. As for the scientific words with which the SPOTLIGHT article is peppered, they are actually nothing but a lot of mumbo-jumbo.

SALYUT-7 COSMONAUTS COMPLETE FIFTH SPACE WALK

LD190916 Moscow TASS in English 0615 GMT 19 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- A special correspondent reporting from the Mission Control Center:

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov have been working aboard the Salyut-7 orbital research station for 100 days now.

At 21.52 (Moscow time) on May 18 cosmonauts Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev opened the outside hatch and left the station. They took along containers with additional solar batteries, tools and appliances. Using special structural elements, mechanisms and fastening devices, the cosmonauts installed the first additional solar battery and put it into the working position.

After that cosmonaut-researcher Oleg Atkov who was at the station's controls rotated the built-up solar battery by an angle of 180 degrees, while the mission commander and the flight engineer began the assembly of the second additional panel The newly installed solar batteries are fitted with high efficiency photoelectric cells manufactured of gallium arsenide.

After completing the planned assembly and construction work Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev returned to the station. They were working in outer space for three hours and five minutes.

The crew acted confidently and efficiently and demonstrated high worksmanship in carrying out complicated work in outer space.

The cosmonauts are in good health.

For the first time in space flight history the cosmonauts during a single stay aboard an orbital complex made five walks in outer space, staying outside the spacecraft for a total of 17 hours 50 minutes.

THREE COSMOS SATELLITES LAUNCHED 19 MAY

LD210746 Moscow TASS in English 0737 GMT 21 May 84

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Three artificial earth satellites, Cosmos 1554, Cosmos 1555 and Cosmos 1556, were launched in the Soviet Union on Saturday. All the three satellites were placed in orbit by one booster rocket. The satellites are intended for testing the elements and equipment of the space navigational system, which is being set up with a view to ensuring the determination of the location of civilian aircrafts and ships of the Merchant Marine and fishing fleet of the Soviet Union.

The satellites have been placed in a near-circular orbit with the following parametres:

Initial period of revolution -- 11 hours 16 minutes, distance from the earth's surface -- 19,125 kilometres, inclination of the orbit -- 64.8 degrees.

The on-board equipment is working normally.

BRIEFS

MORE ON POLAR CONSTRUCTION -- Pevek May 20, TASS -- A bold experiment has been carried out in the Eastern Arctic today: fourteen persons and cargoes for the future Soviet polar station "SP-27" have been parachuted from planes onto ice. The aim of the expedition was to practice the parachuting of cargoes and speedy establishment of "North Pole" drifting stations on ice. Thus, in particular, two heavy IL-76 planes dropped on special parachuting platforms 120 barrels of fuel on ice in two flights, which took only several hours. The parachuting of polarmen was also carried out efficiently. The participants in the expedition disassembled the platforms parachuted from the planes and assembled three houses for the polar explorers, assisted in delivering to the base of the future stateion a part of the cargoes, which have been already delivered here. A bulldozer parachuted on ice has proved very useful in this work. During the experiment were also trained the methods of search and rescue parachuting operations in the Arctic. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 20 May 84 LD]